

RAID BREAKER

BOOK 01



EPUB CREATION BY LISA HAYES

Raid Breaker

(레이드 브레이커)

by Sung-jin (성진)

Synopsis

The existence of 'Knights' who have awoken special powers.

The boss 'monsters' that have embraced the dimensional power of the dungeons.

The 'Titan' that was an important tool in monster hunting.

And Kang Su-hyuk who obtained an entirely new type of power.

Now a new type of raid has begun!

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Chapter 1: Opening Pandora's Box

Do you know what is really absurd?

The starting point of all events was called 'Zero (o) Impact'....the ringleader was a cursed creature that humans unleashed.

The year 2016. The dimensional door opened for the first time.

Just like I said, the key difference was that humans opened the door. The dimension gate project that the United States was secretly researching was an unexpected success and the door of the dimension suddenly blew open.

Humans clearly opened the dimensional door. But the results turned out too badly for us. When the door first opened, a huge monstrous beast emerged in the most powerful country in the world and decimated half of the United States' territory.

This incident was called 'Zero Impact.'

These days, the monster could be accurately measured and sorted into a category but there was no such thing at that time.

Anyway, if I used the basic rating system that since appeared then the monster would be classified as 'Ultra (U) Class' with 'A+ grade emission system,' 'S+ class strengthening ability (Defense) and a total rating of 7 with the ability of 'horned giant turtle.' It was a creature that could singlehandedly smash a colony. It was

unclear why such a large one emerged from the beginning but a disaster started from that moment.

The gritty conclusion that the United States came to was to drop a nuclear bomb at 7 feet on it. If I thought about it now, that act was really crazy.

At the time, people around the world were eagerly wishing the disaster would end. I vaguely remember this as I was still young back then. But...God didn't answer our prayers.

In fact, more doors kept opening and we couldn't block the opposite side no matter how many doors we closed.

Once the first open door, known as 'Zero Gate' occurred, doors started opening in various parts of the world.

Of course, they weren't as big as the first Zero Gate. According to the rating scale now, most of them back then were Class 1 or 2.

It was obvious but only monsters up to the 3rd grade could emerge from the Class 1~2 doors. This meant they could be overpowered with guns and bombs.

The problem was that there were millions of people around the world. Naturally the world was a mess. Monsters were popping out of thin air and attacking people so a state of emergency was declared around the world.

As the damage became larger, this state of emergency lasted for approximately 2 years. The period was 2 years but the world's population had been halved so the damage was really huge.

It was a truly horrible time.... My father, mother and older brother all died. At the time, I was only 7 years old and couldn't understand why my father, mother and brother had disappeared.

Ah, fuck...just thinking about it makes me want to curse.

However, the situation started to change little by little over time. The most crucial thing that changed the situation was the bodies of the creatures that became extremely valuable.

The blood, bone, teeth, horns, leather and other parts of the beast all contained powers that couldn't be explained by modern science or technology. And the more crucial thing about the beasts was their core.

The core later became known as 'magic stone' or 'mana stone' as it contained an energy that couldn't be imagined.

The situation changed after finding these things. Rather, the humans were now waiting for the creatures. No, later they tracked where the beasts were going to emerge and entered that place to kill the beast.

And since then....Knights started appearing.

The people with supernatural powers that we used to watch in the movies...for some unknown reason, their special powers manifested and the Knights were thought of as superheroes.

Of course, later I learned that they also move for profit like other humans but I had been envious of the Knights at the time.

At first, they were simply humans with powers manifested but they started to be called 'Knights' once human technology combined the by-products of the beasts into all types of things.

Anyway, this started the 'Monster Hunting' era where the resilient humans received jobs to hunt the creatures.

When is it now?

It is exactly 20 years after Zero Impact took place. The 20 years had been tough but the important thing was that humans started developing in an amazing new direction. Beast Engineering combined the by-products of the beasts to create science and technology, with the most significant discoveries coming from the combining of mana stones.

Unfortunately, humans weren't the only ones that developed. As time passed, stronger creatures started emerging from the dimensional doors.

Right now there were even Class 5 doors.

The good news was that 'Titans' were developed for the Knights due to Beast Engineering. If I had to give a brief description of the Titan then it would be a bipedal robot that the Knights could board.

The Titans were developed 10 years ago and now there was a huge variety of sizes and types. But the basic form of a Titan looked like the robots that often appeared in past Japanese anime. Of course, I didn't grow up watching the anime so I don't know how close the resemblance was.

The combination of Titan and Knight gave humans an advantage over the beasts.

Small or large teams were created in order to move to a dimensional door and grab the monsters. When that happened not as many beasts would emerge from the dimensional door.

Teams of knights were called an 'Knights Division' and most knights with real skills belonged to a Knights Division.

Of course, knights existed that also belonged to a country or colony. Those knights were called Guard Knights and their teams called Guard Knights Division.

The 'World Knight Group: WKG' was formed as the Knight's authority continued to rise in strength but the World Colony Alliance (WCA) still had a considerable amount of power that gave them support.

But no matter how many Knights existed in this world, they couldn't close all the dimensional doors. There were even those who entered the dimensional dungeon and failed to clear it.

There would be an uproar whenever that happened.

Fortunately, the World Knight Group had established a law where 'the Knight must defend opened dimensional doors' so when that happened, a code red was placed on the situation and all knights nearby would move to close that door.

But this didn't completely prevent the damage. In particular, there was bound to be larger damage in remote areas.

As a result, the areas humans lived in gradually shrank and now they primarily lived in cities. Monsters emerged, humans constantly fought the monstrous beast, they died and the cycle was repeated. Thus after the population of the world decreased rapidly with the first assaults, there was no signs of it increasing.

Rather, it was actually decreasing little by little. Beasts were constantly emerging from the dimensional doors. And the Knights hunted them.

This is the era I'm living in.

Who am I?

My name is Kang Su-hyuk. I work as a freelance 'dungeon

cleaner' in Suwon Colony.

Chapter 2: Dungeon Cleaner

"What? 4 million won? This is a joke. No, isn't this a Class 1 dungeon? Moreover, the field type? Even though it is a Class 1 field type dungeon, you know how wide it is. It will take 12 hours to neutralize the dimensional force in the dungeon. Do you know the price for 'Dimensional Power Neutralizers' these days? It is 300,000 won for 3 hours. If it takes 12 hours then that is 1.2 million won. Are you saying that this isn't a normal cleaning? Then how many evil creatures remain? Neutralizing while taking care of the remaining creatures....then I have to defend the neutralizing devices for 12 hours. Am I really being paid only 4 million won?"

Su-hyuk spoke rapidly due to his anger.

It was unfair no matter how he thought about it. The basic cost of 4 million won for cleaning the Class 1 dungeon was correct but when considering the situation in the dungeon, 4 million won was a ridiculous amount.

"Hyung, I will honestly admit it. These days the prices of cleaning has come down as a whole so what am I supposed to do? These days, the default fee for cleaning a Class 1 dungeon is 3 million won."

"Admit it? 3 million? That is too cheap for the skills required. You must remember the Chinese incident that occurred when they didn't know how to use the neutralizer. I won't do it even for 4 million won."

To be honest, Su-hyuk was quite stubborn.

It might be called a 1st Class field dungeon but cleaning it wasn't that easy for Su-hyuk. In particular, all the major existences in a normal dungeon were cleared but it was difficult in a field dungeon. If so, he would have to take care of the creatures that survived with dungeon weapons.

Dungeon weapons were created from rocks and materials from the creatures.

These weapons were called 'Dungeon Weapons' and were much more expensive than normal weapons. The most mediocre rifle made from the bones of a monster was sold for a minimum of 10 million won.

Then the magic bullets that entered the rifle would cost 50,000 won for a bullet. In other words, 10 rounds of magic bullets would cost 500,000 won.

When looking at all these things, 4 million won absolutely won't be enough for the job.

"Hey Mister....then how much will you do it for?"

Kim Yeon-gyu, the person offering the job to Su-hyuk asked. In fact, he also knew that Su-hyuk wasn't wrong. He didn't want the job to be refused.

"550. Give me that much."

"No. The order is 500. I can't give anything beyond that."

"Ah fuck. You got 500 and you only offered me 300? Ah, a guy like you is trash."

"Heheh, I also need to live."

"That's it. Get lost. There are many other brokers."

"You are really a child! I'm the one frequently giving you work."

It was true. Kim Yeon-gyu might be human trash but he definitely asked for Su-hyuk a lot.

"No matter what we do, we are still wallowing at the bottom of society. And this is a real deal."

"I understand. I'm sorry."

Su-hyuk could only reply like that after hearing his words. Su-hyuk was also aware of the fact that he was trash. But it was because of Yeon-gyu that Su-hyuk could live like this.

In fact, dungeon cleaners weren't welcome anywhere they went. Due to the nature of the dimensional force, exposure to it meant they could die at any time.

People could buy the expensive 'Mana Cure' but that didn't fully heal the exposure to the dimensional force. The only existence free from exposure to the dimensional force was a 'Knight.'

Anyway, this was the reason why dungeon cleaners couldn't mingle with the general public. That dimensional force would spread so there was a law that dungeon cleaners weren't allowed to come close to people.

That's why the amount of dungeon cleaners was extremely limited.

"Then how about 500?"

"Hey, this guy. I understand. 500 it is."

Su-hyuk reluctantly nodded. In fact, So-hyuk might have courage but he had been considerably anxious these days.

He had good skills as a dungeon cleaner but the prices were ridiculous these days and work was decreasing. Moreover, the trend these days was for Knight Divisions to hire their own dungeon cleaners so the freelancers were losing their place.

"Good thinking. Then I will tell you the dungeon coordinates. The lock was just released so you can enter." "How many hours before the dungeon opens?"

"Earlier it was 22 hours but now there should be 20 hours left. Preparations will finish in approximately 5 hours and then you can enter."

When humans first attacked the dungeons, they had killed all the creatures inside the dungeon. But as soon as they opened the dungeon door, all the dimensional force spread out like an explosion.

Dimensional force exposure was dozens of times more dangerous than radiation exposure. More humans died from dimensional exposure than from the creatures so they realized how dangerous it was.

So a Dimensional Power Neutralizer was developed. A Dimensional Power Neutralizer could completely get rid of all the dimensional force.

Su-hyuk received the coordinates from and immediately began preparing the equipment. The coordinates of the dungeon wasn't far but he didn't know what would happen once he started cleaning.

'Hyu....this isn't easy. Should I place a resume with a Knight Division?'

Su-hyuk wondered if he should stop being a freelancer. But then he shook his head.

'The dimensional force exposure will be too severe that it would just be a vain act.'

The problem was the dimensional force exposure.

Su-hyuk was he older among the current dungeon cleaners. The concept of dungeon cleaners started 15 years ago and Su-hyuk had been doing this for 10 years. He started at the age of 15 and now he was 25 years old.

He didn't know whether it was good or bad but at least Su-hyuk had survived until now. The dungeon cleaners usually had a limit of 5 years.

After 5 years of hard work, they would use the money they saved to buy a Mana Cure or the dungeon cleaner would die after 5 years....it was one of those options.

In that sense, it was incredible that Su-hyuk could last 10 years. In particular, he didn't have the money to take even a single Mana Cure. The money he earned was always used to buy various types of equipment.

Thanks to that, his skills grew by leaps and bounds but the exposure symptoms became more severe.

It was strange how he lived every day so far. The reason why he lived like this as simple. His life was hell anyway. 17 years ago, his family died due to the creatures and his life had been hell after that.

So he didn't have much to regret in his life. His life was hell but the thing he wanted to do the most was hunt the monsters.

But he couldn't become a Knight. Su-hyuk couldn't hunt monsters in dungeons so he was left with cleaning them up. That's why Su-hyuk worked harder than anyone else to clean dungeons for the past 10 years.

Now he was increasingly feeling the limits but he wanted to continue cleaning up the dungeons.

'Anyway, all the people important to me have died.'

Su-hyuk thought about his bitter reality before closing a large trunk containing his equipment.

So-hyuk had no meaning in his life.

Every day was hell for him.

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Su-hyuk navigated to the coordinates of the dungeon that Yeon-

gyu gave him and quietly opened the trunk.

There was a playground where children used to play. Of course, the entire apartment complex was abandoned so the playground was empty.

Suwon Colony was a fairly large colony but there were many areas with a barrier around them. A long time ago before the Zero Impact occurred, many apartment complexes were built in Yeongtong.

The Yeong-tong colony was small compared to the Suwon Colony and there was a gloomy atmosphere around the apartment complexes.

Sometimes refugees would enter these colonies but no one knew when a dungeon would appear. Therefore it was difficult to obtain electricity and water.

There were rumours that the government planned to connect all colonies in South Korea. But the problem was that no matter how much the government said it was safe, people refused to leave the barriers of the colonies.

It wasn't easy to protect the barrier stretching over the colonies from the dimensional force exposure and beasts.

"First...check the dimensional door...."

The door wasn't open yet so he needed a 'Dimensional Key.' The Dimensional Key was a consumable good and different keys were required for dungeons with different ratings. Therefore, the keys were incredibly expensive.

But once a key had been used to open the door of a locked dimension, he only needed to use a Dimensional Power Scanner to open it again.

Chiing!

The scanner was aimed at the coordinates and a translucent, red door appeared in front of him.

It was the typical size for a Class 1 dungeon. The larger the size of the door, the higher the rating. He heard that the door for a Class 4 or 5 dungeon was extremely huge.

"Now, let's go."

Dururuk.

Su-hyuk verified the dimensional door and entered with his big trunk without any hesitation.

"Sheesh, a jungle style is really annoying."

This was a field type dungeon.

A 1st Class field dungeon was approximately 3 times the width of a football field. Usually field type dungeons had a jungle, mountain or desert style. Sometimes there would be unusual snow or sea environments but a jungle, mountain or desert was the most common.

Out of the jungle, mountain and desert styles, Su-hyuk disliked the jungle style the most. There was a lot of terrain for concealment in the jungle style so it wasn't easy to spot any creatures.

'It might be precious but I need to use the claymore.'

The claymore that Su-hyuk had was naturally made with the bones of a beast and the 'Magic Circuit' contained in it gave an explosive power.

The price for one was 1 million won. He didn't want to use it here but it would be dangerous if a creature jumped at him.

Su-hyuk roughly finished his preparations and operated the Dimensional Power Neutralizer.

Chiiiiiing!

A Dimensional Power Neutralizer would only last for 3 hours so he placed 4 devices in order to last for 12 hours.

'This is a 1st Class dungeon so won't there only be shadow cats or dogs?'

The shadow cats and dogs were the representative 1st class beasts. Only 1st class creatures would appear in 1st class dungeons. Sometimes there were grade 2 creatures but they were normally already killed by Knights.

Cheolkeok.

Su-hyuk inserted a magazine with 20 magic bullets into a' Dimension Rifle' that resembled a K-2 rifle.

And he aligned the control stick to single firing.

His heart wanted to shoot a barrage of magic bullets but each one cost 50,000 won. He didn't know how many beasts there were so he needed to conserve as much magic bullets as possible.

Wiiiiing!

The neutralizer continued to suck all the power from the surroundings. 12 hours was needed in order to neutralize all the dimensional power in this dungeon.

The dimensional power was like air to the creatures existing in this dungeon. He was getting rid of this so it was natural for the remaining creatures to go crazy. In some cases, people were stupid and used the neutralizing device without preparing to counteract the beasts in the dungeon and would die. Su-hyuk thought that people who only wanted to look cool deserved to die.

Once the device was activated, all the monsters remaining in the dungeon would go mad and jump at him. Those that went crazy were in a berserk state.

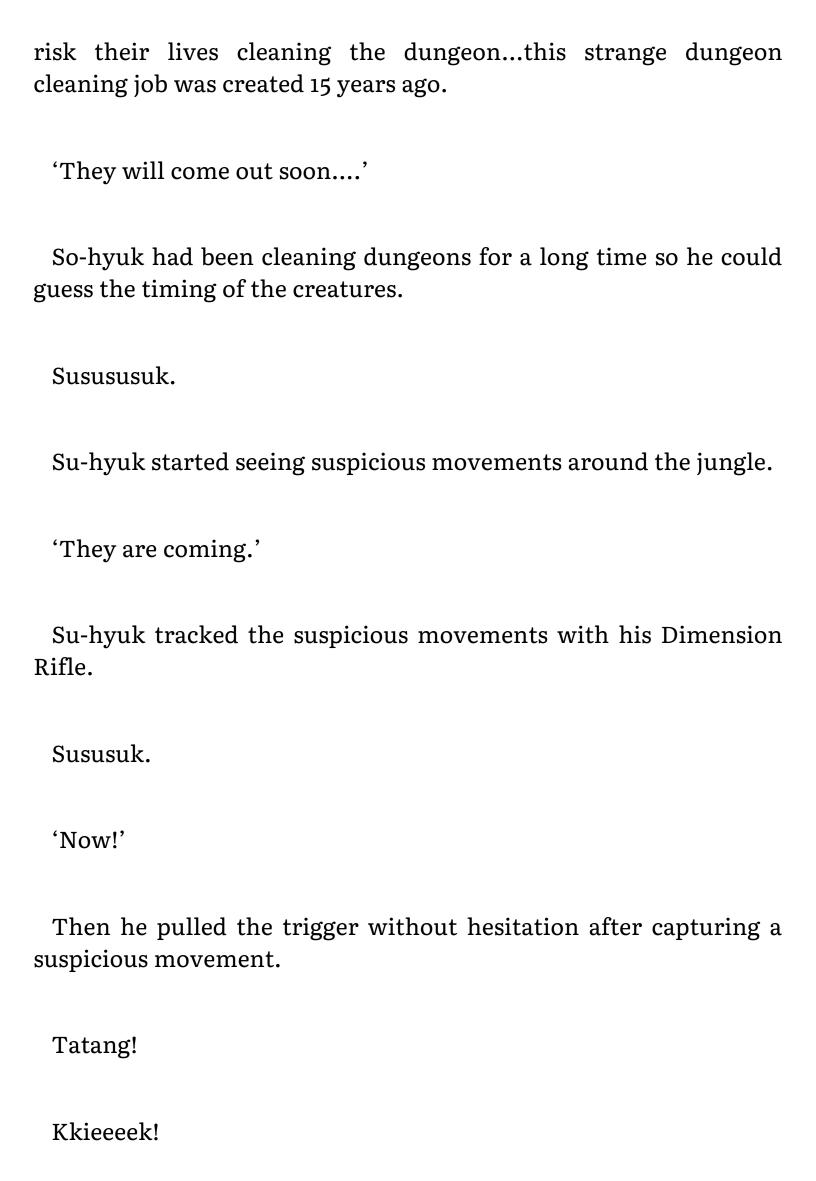
One thing to note was that the creatures would become much stronger than usual. It wasn't easy to deal with them one by one but once they were in the berserk state, the creatures would all attack at the same time.

Anyway, it was a basic strategy to not activate the neutralizing device until all the creatures were dealt with.

In fact, strictly speaking the neutralizing devices were originally made for Knights.

Hunt the monsters and clean the dungeon. That was the job of the Knights. But dungeon cleaning was too bothersome for them. Even the smallest Class 1 dungeon 'cave terrain' took approximately 8 hours to neutralize. This was a Class 1 rating so it would take a few days and even weeks once the rating rose.

The Knights were an expensive workforce so this task was annoying for them. In the end, demand rose so of course there would be some supply. Those at the bottom of society jumped to



The magic bullet shot from the Dimension Rifle penetrated through the head of the creature. Su-hyuk had been doing this every day for 10 years so it was easy for him to hunt the creatures.

'Approximately 10 of them...sheesh, there are more than I thought.'

If he used 30 magic bullets then he could neatly process them. He would receive 5 million won with 1.2 million flying away because of the neutralizers and 1.5 from the magic bullets. Therefore he would only receive a profit of 2.2. million won.

When considering all the trivial consumables used, he would only receive 2 million won at most. He was risking his life with the dimensional force exposure only to barely receive 2 million won.

But Su-hyuk's marksmanship was quite remarkable so he cleaned the creatures up quickly.

Of course, the creatures had a low rating but a cleaner was exerting considerable power against them. Su-hyuk fired his rifle and the bodies of 8 grade 1 creatures stacked on top of each other.

It wasn't much but he could still obtain money from the bodies of the creatures. However, the corpses of the creatures were soaked in dimensional power so it was quite dangerous.

Only the bones, teeth and claws were worth some money. That's

why few people touched the body of a creature except for the cleaners.

'I will organize this later....'

Su-hyuk had that thought while cleaning up a few more creatures. But then something happened that Su-hyuk never expected.

Chiiiing! Kwa kwa kwang!

The space distorted and Su-hyuk's neutralization device exploded.

"Cough!"

Naturally Su-hyuk was pushed back by the explosion. The good news was that the creatures near the explosion were destroyed.

How much time passed?

Su-hyuk painfully opened his eyes.

"Ooooh...."

Su-hyuk's state didn't seem that good.

Both legs were broken and there were many large and small wounds on his upper body. He was just lucky that he wasn't involved in the aftereffects of the explosion.

'What the hell happened?'

Su-hyuk calmly looked around. In the aftermath of the explosion, there was a huge crater in the dungeon.

'Damn....my devices to counteract the dimensional force....'

The first thing that came to Su-hyuk's mind was the 20 million won required to replace all the equipment. Without it he couldn't be a cleaner.

It was a really desperate situation. But first he needed to think about leaving the dungeon alive before worrying about the equipment that exploded.

'I need to send a rescue request...where is my trunk?'

Su-hyuk's trunk seemed to have been blown somewhere in the aftermath of the explosion. He needed the dimensional scanner in order to enter and exit the dimension.

"Ugh, my legs...."

Su-hyuk bit his lips as he gazed at the mess that was his two legs.

The situation really wasn't good.

'Huh? What is that?'

Su-hyuk noticed something strange when looking for his trunk. He didn't know the details....a space distortion.

If Su-hyuk stretched out his hand then he would touch the strange distortion. He had been cleaning dungeons for 10 years but he had never seen a distortion before.

'If there is a creature remaining....'

Knights who didn't remove all monsters from the dungeon would be subject to neglecting the law. He didn't know what it was but he carefully watched the space distortion in the dungeon.

'Perhaps an exit was exposed because of the explosion?'

The possibility wasn't unlikely. The dimensional forces inside the dungeon might have scattered from the explosion of the equipment and created an exit.

'I will die under these circumstances anyway. Let's just check it.'

Su-hyuk had concerns but he carefully reached out towards the distorted space. But the moment Su-hyuk's fingertips touched the distortion. Su-hyuk felt a shock like 1 million volts of electricity

had passed through him.

"Cough!"

Su-hyuk's body stiffened like a stone.

Su-hyuk couldn't withstand the huge impact on his body and fainted. But some strange words echoed in his ears.

-You have made contact with the transcendence system 'X-4'.

-Ddiiii, language system has been initialized and repair of the broken system has started.

The user's language system has become one with the system.

The entire system will be reconfigured and rebooted.

10, 9, 8, 7....2, 1, 0. Ddiii! System reconfiguration is over.

The user's body has been perfectly reconstructed by the transcendence system.

The transcendence energy is low and 'Jump' can't be used.

The emergency maintenance system will search for alternative energy sources.

-Ddirik, available dimensional energy (SS) found.

From now on, the transcendence system's basic power source will be dimensional force.

All the dimensional power in the vicinity will be absorbed to reconfigure the user's body.

The basic interface of the transcendence system

-Ddiring, the dimensional power has transcended time and space and connected to the Universal Store.

However, the security level is low so you can't access the store.

The accumulated dimensional force has been reduced a level.

Congratulations. The dimensional power level is 19.

-In the process of reconfiguring the system, '2244' dimensional power has been consumed.

-Ddiring, an additional skill slot has been created.

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The strange words didn't make any sense to Su-hyuk.

'What the hell....this....'

Su-hyuk could only remember up to here.

In the end, Su-hyuk lost consciousness....he had encountered an unknown presence and collapsed to the ground.

*

"Ohhh."

Su-hyuk painfully opened his eyes.

Swaaaaah.

It was raining inside the dungeon. Scientists had investigated why the weather changed in the dungeon. Some said it was a separate world while others said it was the world that the creatures lived in.

'I'm alive?'

He moved his hand and felt the rain before raising his upper body. He was still inside the dungeon where the explosion had occurred.

"How long did I faint?"

Suuuk.

He naturally looked around as he stood up.

"There was an explosion....ugh!"

Su-hyuk who was looking for signs of the explosion stared down at his legs with astonishment.

It was fine. There was no signs of broken bones and all the power had been restored.

That wasn't all.

The large and small wounds on his upper body were also recovered.

'This....'

It felt like a dream had finished.

However, Su-hyuk noticed something strange when he searched his body.

"W-what is this?"

A small button that looked transparent appeared on the outskirts of his vision....Su-hyuk stretched out his hand and carefully

pressed the button.				

Chapter 3: Beyond The System

Di-ding, default system interface downloading.

The moment Suhyuk pressed the transparent button, his vision changed in a strange way.

Several strange transparent buttons could be seen on either sides of Suhyuk's vision.

Suhyuk gazed at a tree that looked stronger than any object; next to it strange letters were written.

Dimensional force contaminated rubber tree

Suhyuk turned around, this time he stared at his shattered dimensional force neutralizing device.

2020 dimensional force neutralizing device fragment (impossible to repair)

"What the hell"

It was hard for Suhyuk to swallow this strange chain of events. The moment Suhyuk thought how uncomfortable his vision felt; all of a sudden an unfamiliar voice rang in his ears.

Di-ring, shut down the basic exploration functions?

Suhyuk instinctively nodded upon hearing the voice. In response, the letters obstructing his vision disappeared.

"huh...."

Everything was shocking. Suhyuk wanted to figure out what the heck was happening. The moment Suhyuk thought this, the strange voice rung his ears once again.

Di-Ring, would you like to review the transcendental system user tutorial?

Such a friendly voice... Suhyuk could do nothing but nod once again.

*

The unidentified voice guided Suhyuk of the various functions he could use with great detail.

But a simple tutorial was making Suhyuk dumbfounded.

To summarize the tutorial simply:

First, the features of the transcendence system can but used or shut down according to Suhyuk's 'thoughts.'

Second, the transcendence system can assist the user in a many number of ways. In particular, more help can be obtained once the dimensional level is raised.

Third, when the user's security level is raised, the number of usable transcendental features increases.

And fourth, the current transcendence system basic energy is dimensional force, once enough dimensional force is collected dimensional level rises and this energy can be in turn used in various ways.

Suhyuk could only fully understand these four principles.

Suhyuk did not understand the rest, but he felt he could take his time to learn the rest.

'Did I by chance awaken? It can't be... If I awakened, I should have a mark appear somewhere on my body but I see no such thing.'

When Knights awaken, they obtain special powers and tattoo like markings related to their associated powers. The common places were the back, chest, arms, and legs. Once knights become stronger the tattoos evolve together. In that sense, Suhyuk understood his body has not awakened seeing there were no tattoos on his body.

'Then what the hell is this transcendence system thing?'

Whenever Suhyuk wondered about this, he heard in his ears 'security level is low and cannot be answered.'

Though he was curious, it was impossible to figure anything out at this moment and so he pushed the thoughts aside and followed the tutorial's instructions and pressed the blue button located at the bottom right.

Di-Ring, status window will be displayed.

NAME KANG SUHYUK AGE 25-YEAR-OLD

Level 19 Dimensional Power 2172/4416

Species Human Control System Transcendental System X-4

Basic Skill N/A Additional Skill 1 N/A

Reserve items Monster bullet (40shots)

Lesser dimensional rifle(lost)

steel jungle ax (...) Security Ratin

Security Rating 99 Archived Skill Core Precision Shooting-D

Lasting effect is applied: (strengthens the physical body, the lowest grade)

••••

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The status window appeared in front of Suhyuk, he skimmed through it quietly while nodding.

'Is it similar to a game interface?'

Suhyuk was always surviving day by day and never played games before. But he has seen others play games time to time so he wasn't totally clueless about these things.

'I haven't awakened but why am I seeing these cool things?' His body was in a much better state than before too.

The transcendence system tutorial told Suhyuk he did not have to worry about dimensional radiation anymore.

Rather, he needed to collect dimensional force to fully utilize all his new found powers.

"Frankly, I don't understand what is what but I'm free from dimensional radiation now so it's a good thing.' Suhyuk smirked while mumbling.

No matter how much Suhyuk lived without the fear of death, once he was face to face with death, his heart felt like crumbling.

'It said it can assist me with many more things when I raise my level right? But.... how do I raise my level?'

Suddenly, Suhyuk broke free from his train of thought and realized he did not know how to raise his level.

'Ah, there are too many things I don't know.'

Although there was a clear tutorial for using the transcendence system, there are many more things he did not understand.

'I'll gradually build my knowledge as I go.... first let's escape from this place.'

Suhyuk couldn't continue standing here mindlessly all day long so he started searching for his lost trunk that flew off a moment ago.

Suhyuk found his trunk in a far forest area, but the items inside were mostly broken.

The dimensional dungeon navigation scanner, his last hope was shattered into many small pieces.

However thankfully, he had the ability of the transcendental system scanner to observe his surroundings.

Therefore, Suhyuk found it a piece of cake to escape the dungeon.

The transcendental system had scanned the interior of the dungeon while he was escaping and noted there wasn't a drop of dimensional force left within it.

His neutralizer was destroyed before he could use it in this dungeon. But anyway, with this level of cleaning, it would not be a problem to accept the paycheck.

After escaping the dungeon, Suhyuk took out his only unbroken device-his smartphone, and called Kim Yeongyu

[Huh? You're done already?]

"Yes, I had an early start and ended things as fast as possible. After you confirm everything, I expect a deposit."

[OK, after I confirm I'll deposit the money within an hour]

"Roger. Ah.... do you know any people who are retiring from the cleaning business?"

[Huh? Why?]

"The dimensional force neutralizer broke. I wanted to find a cheap replacement from retiring dungeon cleaners."

[Huh? What the heck? I guess it was pretty rough?]

"It was incredibly tough. This order brought me so much damages."

[Hey now, you're making me feel bad. Got it. I'll ask around and tip you off when I find something good.]

"Okay, keep in touch."

After Suhyuk hung up his conversation with Yeongyu, he began wondering whether the dungeon cleaning business was the right job for himself.

'Could I have become a real knight? Impossible. There's no way I've become a knight. Still, I feel I've obtained a unique skill but... do I have to continue cleaning dungeons?'

Truthfully, Suhyuk's real dream was a monster hunter.

He doesn't even dare to dream of defeating Rank 4 titans. Suhyuk hoped one day he could become a knight who could defeat Rank 1~3 lesser monsters.

If that wasn't possible, he hoped he could be the helpers beside the knights to catch intermediate or advanced lesser monsters while attending to the tedious choirs of the group. 'All I can do is dungeon cleaning for now... ... I have no idea how to collect dimensional force, all I can do is clean out dungeons while exposing myself to the dimensional radiation to hopefully collect some of it.'

Until he could completely understand the dimensional force collection process; he needed to use the indirect method of clearing out dungeons to raise his dimensional force level while hoping for the best.

'First, I should familiarize myself with the transcendental system.'

He didn't have the dimensional force neutralizer so dungeon cleaning was out of the question. He decided the best thing he could do was try and understand this mystical system that called itself the transcendental system.

*

The lower class dungeon cleaners were not allowed to live in the same colony as the general public. One needed something called 'Colony registration certification' to be allowed to live as a resident of a colony. Only those who could pay taxes faithfully would be allowed a registration.

Dungeon cleaners weren't scraping by while living in poverty, but still dungeon cleaners were out right rejected from receiving colony registration certifications. No matter how many monster engineers confirm the noncontagious nature of dimensional radiation from human to human, people would never change their prejudice nature.

For these reasons, Suhyuk built himself a house in an abandoned colony in the outskirts called Suwon Colony. Of course electricity and water has been long disconnected.

So, whenever Suhyuk needed electricity, he would build himself a small 'mana generator.' For water, he collected rain water in water tanks.

He lived in a harsh environment, but he did not mind so much.

In fact, there were many who lived in similar settings outside of the colony like Suhyuk. The Korean Colony Alliance (KCA) announced roughly a million people lived within Korea and about 5 million people lived outside of the colony.

5 million is not an absolute low number.

Outsiders wished to live within the colonies but were kicked or chased out and had no hope.

Rarely, there were those who don't want to live within colonies and defected to the outside.

Those living within colonies are called 'citizens' while those living outside were called 'ghosts.'

Ghosts who live outside colonies lived in a lawless world, it was a dog eat dog world where you can only trust yourself with your life.

So, Suhyuk had numerous traps installed around his house and was always ready for raids from the outlaws.

It has been one week since Suhyuk lived in such a strong(?) house while studying the transcendental system.

Fortunately, Suhyuk was not stupid and flawlessly understood how to use the transcendental system functions.

'Think of the coordinates here.....'

Di-Ring, transcendental navigation coordinates commencing.

The top-right corner of Suhyuk's field of vision was guiding Suhyuk to the place Suhyuk just thought of.

The transcendental system had most functions of his past equipments So he didn't need to bother repurchasing most of his broken equipments. But this was not the transcendental system's real strength.

'Install skill core precision shooting-D!'

Suhyuk recalled another function straight away. Then the next function began.

di-ring, dimensional force has been consumed. Skill core precision shooting-D (all shooting accuracy is raised.) has been installed to an empty primary skill slot.

When the skill core was installed, a proud smile spread on Suhyuk's face.

Skill, it was such a great thing. Once Suhyuk had the skill core precision shooting installed, his accuracy rate increased incredibly. In particular, no matter what the circumstances whether he was moving or his body alignment would dishevel, the target would hit with precision.

It was a pity he only had one skill core, but even this much was very great.

If Suhyuk could obtain a variety of better skill cores, then the possibilities would be endless.

It takes a bit of dimensional force to install or uninstall skills onto the slots but for now he only had 'precision shooting-D' and the amount of dimensional force it consumed was an insignificant burden.

"I've finally gotten used to this."

Suhyuk had been practicing the use of the transcendental system

and quietly nodded while mumbling to himself.

With just a few practice sessions, he was able to fully comprehend the concept of skill and skill cores. He was unsure what would happen once his security rating increased but for now he was able to use the transcendental system with great efficiency.

'First I need to increase my dimensional force to increase my level. Then my security rating will increase to access more functions.'

Suhyuk knew exactly what he had to do for his future.

Increase his dimensional force to raise his level. That was the first thing Suhyuk needed to work on.

Suhyuk hopped onto his old rusty bike to organize his thoughts while circling the outskirts of Suwon Colony.

The old bike originally moved with gasoline, a type of oil that is rarely used now. But it has been converted illegally and now runs on mana oil.

Up until 15 years ago, gasoline was human beings most important resource.

But 15 years ago a monster engineer extracted high density mana oil from a mana stone and people gradually turned away from gasoline. 0.1 liters of mana oil produces as much energy as 1 tons of gasoline energy. Additionally, mana oil didn't cause environmental pollution. Of course it was easier to store AND use.

Mana oil was superior to gasoline in all aspects. Everything that ran on gasoline was converted to run on mana oil in this world.

5 years ago, the World Colony Alliance (WCA) made the use of gasoline within colonies illegal.

However, it didn't mean gasoline was a completely useless resource. The petrochemistry industry still used gasoline. Although gasoline was not used for fuel, gasoline still had its uses.

So anyway, as long as you weren't inside a colony it was not so difficult to obtain gasoline.

The reason Suhyuk rode the bike in the outskirts of the colony was simply. He was looking for the newly opened dimensional dungeons.

The dungeons that has not been dealt with were already sold out at a high price. When a rank 3 dungeons generates, the colonies who have 'wide range dimensional detectors' will output approximate coordinates and knights will preoccupy the place first.

But rank 1~2 dungeons released only a tiny amount of

dimensional force from it's doors and couldn't be detected until the doors fully open. Therefore it is common to find people traveling in person with dimensional force detectors at hand.

On the lucky chance he could find a rank 2 dungeon, the income was high and he won't have to clean another dungeon for the next month.

'This is really comfortable.'

Suhyuk smiled while enjoying the view racing around the mountain on his motorcycle.

The transcendental system navigation system couldn't be compared to Suhyuk's old navigation device. The transcendental system navigation was just too good, once he set the investigation menu to search for dimensional force the navigation automatically marked even the slightest dimensional force to as far as his vision touched.

This level of investigative power far surpassed a basic knight's 'investigative goggles.'

'Wow, if I focus harder, I can make out the dimensional force coming from the defeated dimensional dungeons. This is amazing.'

Suhyuk looked around the Yeonshin area while pulling the bike's accelerator.

vroooom.

He continued riding for awhile when Suhyuk made out a distinctive characteristic on his travel.

warped dimensional force noted.

The transcendental system called this 'warped dimensional force.'

Suhyuk's original navigation device only displayed different colors according to dimensional level with no specific details to define what every aspect meant.

'I wonder if this is a dimensional door that's not fully open yet?'

Even when dimensional doors are closed, they continue to leak out a bit of dimensional force. In particular, the higher the dungeon rank, the more dimensional force it will leak out. Kkkeee

Suhyuk parked his bike and took out his dimensional rifle.

Schklikt, klikt.

'First I need to investigate so let's go closer.'

It's always been this way, there is no way to know the dangers outside of a colony. There's no time to relax even for a second.

Suhyuk aimed his rifle towards the warped point. It felt like a waste of monster bullets, but there was no better way to check than this.

If this warped point was a closed off entrance to a dimensional dungeon, the monster bullet should bounce off. Dimensional dungeon entrances bounce off everything and it is impossible to destroy it in any way.

In the early days, people poured concrete or tried to block off the entrance with piles of steel but when the dungeon entrance opens, everything will be sucked in and all efforts would be wasted.

If the bullet bounces off, it will confirm everything.

Ta!

Suhyuk did not hesitate and pulled the trigger. But.... rather than bouncing off, the monster bullet was sucked into the warped dimensional point.

'mmm.'

At that moment, Suhyuk figured out what this was.

'Dimensional crack.'

These characteristics could only mean it is a dimensional crack.

Dimensional cracks were common place outside of colonies, but the dimensional force emissions were so insignificant it was impossible to find with a common navigation device.

Dimensional cracks were one of the reasons living outside of the colonies were so dangerous. Explained simply, dimensional cracks were dog holes to dimensional dungeons that has yet to open.

It was a small hole so greater monsters could not make it through but lesser monsters are able to crawl out to the world.

Lesser monsters regularly made their appearance through dimensional cracks so people living outside colonies were always ready to fight against monsters for their lives. Colonies have 'detailed dimensional explorer,' which checks around the clock. So, even if a dungeon were to form everyone could evacuate during the early stages. However, managing every detail outside of colonies was impossible so colonies check for dungeons ranked 3 or higher.

'How much was the reward for reporting this?'

Reporting dimensional cracks also had its rewards. But rewards for dimensional crack discoveries were little and were generally ignored.

The authorities managing these reports were 'proximal knights' and it was common for them to drop these trivial common reports.

'Tsk, let's just ignore it.'

Suhyuk shook his head as he changed his mind about reporting it. He didn't want to go through complicated procedures to get into the colony to earn a pretty penny, it would be more profitable to continue his search elsewhere.

Normally, it is unthinkable to turn a blind eye to a dimensional crack but to ghosts living outside of colonies the dangers of lesser monsters was no different than wild beasts of nature.

If you wanted to live on as a ghost, having the skills to handle a lesser monster alone was a must.

So ghosts didn't fear dimensional cracks so much. Rather, most ghosts made a living hunting the monsters that pop out of these dimensional cracks by selling the monster's body parts.

These people are called 'Monster Cleaners.' When dungeon cleaners don't have jobs, they will also go out and hunt for these monsters.

But, as soon as Suhyuk turned his back to the dimensional crack a new message window displayed in front of his eyes.

Warped dimensional force – (the crack is widening)

'The crack is widening?'

When he saw the message, he quickly aimed the dimensional rifle on his hand.

zzziiiing!

As soon as Suhyuk aimed his rifle, a red light escaped the crack and something began to crawl out.

'Monster!'

Suhyuk didn't panic and quickly stepped back with his rifle at hand.

As he distanced himself, a monster appeared from the dimensional crack.

If a lesser or greater monster's body was still inside the dimensional dungeon, everything would simply bounce off. So, it was important waiting to attack until they were fully out of the crack.

dog corpse (dimensional force 7/7)

One of the most common lesser monsters were dog corpses.

Once the dog corpse's body fully exited through the crack, it didn't hesitate and began rushing to Suhyuk.

GRAWW!

The dog corpse's body length was about 3m, about as big as a over-sized lion. The dog's teeth were incredibly long and sharp so just one bite could mean death.

Ta!

But to the veteran dungeon cleaner, Suhyuk, the dog corpse was nothing more than another catch game.

kiiiiiek!

One monster bullet pierced through the dog corpse's skull.

Suhyuk took care of the monster simply.

But at that moment a new message window appeared and a familiar voice could be heard.

The dog corpse has been killed and its dimensional force (7) will be absorbed.

'gasp!'

The sudden message window shocked Suhyuk. The direct method to collect the dimensional force.... after figuring it out of course he would be shocked.

'It was this?'

Suhyuk nodded his head with understanding.

'If I kill lesser or greater monsters the dimensional force inside of them will be absorbed by me. It was a very simple.

Such a simple and logical answer.

While Suhyuk was deep in thought, another monster escaped from the dimensional crack.

Of course Suhyuk sent its head flying and absorbed its dimensional force.

'It's impossible for me to kill greater monsters so I'll have to kill the lesser monsters. Then I'll have to find as many dungeon cleaning jobs as I can for now.'

Suhyuk nodded while taking out his smartphone to call the broker, YeonGyu.

[I was going to call you just now, perfect timing. I've got some of the items you've requested of me last time. A dungeon cleaner is liquidating his supply to retire. It's a bit old, but it's a fully functioning dimensional force neutralizer for 15 million won.

Yeongyu talked like he's been waiting for Suhyuk all this time.

"You must have offered 10 million won."

Suhyuk snickered and muttered upon hearing his story.

[Wha, what are you talking about? I felt really bad so I went out of my way to find this for you without bothering about my own cut in this deal.]

"Eat in moderation and be happy with a 2 million won cut." I'll give you 12 so bring it over to my house.

[hehe, shall I then?]

No matter how much you curse or threaten, Suhyuk's trash like nature was all the same. If it was the olden days, Suhyuk's temper would blow up and he would find another place to purchase the dimensional force neutralizer but that wasn't important right now.

"Since you've got such a large cut, find me a lot of cleaning jobs for me. Rank does not matter. Rather than all-clear, normal clear is better. As long as it's not such a small profit, I'll take everything so get me as much as you can."

[Eh? What's up all of a sudden?]

Out of the dungeon cleaners Yeongyu knew, Suhyuk was one of the best but at the same time very picky with his orders so it wasn't easy to fulfill.

But the sudden change of character in Suhyuk was shocking.

"I just want to clean to death ok?"

[Woah woah, bro don't be like this. For what reason are we struggling so much in the bottom like this, don't waste your body in this way.]

"It was a joke. I need a lot of money in a hurry so get me as many orders as possible. You know how well I take care of all my jobs. I'll clean to the point nobody can complain so don't worry and get me the orders."

[Hmmm, is that so? Got it. Then I'll show you my real skills and

get you a load.]

"Yes, please do. Please bring the neutralizing device right now. I'll transfer the money as soon as I confirm the items."

[OK! Then I'll let you know as soon as I get the orders.]

Once Suhyuk ended his call with Yeongyu he watched the dimensional crack for some time and returned to his bike.

'I'll get ready for the cleaning jobs and wait for Yeongyu at home.'

Suhyuk thought, rather than mindlessly waiting for monsters to appear out of dimensional cracks it would be faster to clean a dungeon and kill many monsters at one time.

Chapter 4: Level Up And Transcender

Important translator's note: Hello, I took some time because I was reading the rest of raid breaker. I will be using the Korean term 'matan' for monster bullets. This term is used almost 20+ times every chapter and the name gets tediously long. 'ma' is short for 'masu (monster)' and 'tan (bullet).' Feel free to contact me via discord 'eseul' for questions. Enjoy~

Kim Yeongyu was a very resourceful broker. He found dungeon cleaning orders as he promised in no time at all.

Five dungeons have been cleaned within a week but the commission reward was frustratingly measly. Usually when the loss outweighed the profits, he refused the jobs.

But, Suhyuk decided to take the cleaning jobs without a word of complaint.

Money was not the most important matter to Suhyuk at the moment. He wasn't rich, but he had enough to get by comfortably so although there would be a loss he decided to continue cleaning without rest.

As soon as Suhyuk received the used dimensional neutralizer he dashed to the first dungeon.

Rank 1, dimensional dungeon (closed)

unlocking, 18 hours 22 minutes 16 seconds remaining until

dungeon break

Suhyuk can now understand a dungeon's basic information by just looking.

'Ok, let's get started.'

Suhyuk didn't hesitate and stepped into the dungeon gates. But... an unexpected messaged flashed as soon as he stepped in.

Faint dimensional force is in the air.

The concentration is weak so the efficiency is subpar, you are able to absorb the dimensional force.

Di-ring, would you like to absorb the dimensional force?

Upon the message, Suhyuk nodded mindlessly. Soon, the dimensional force began flocking toward Suhyuk like when a neutralizer is turned on.

'No way!'

Suhyuk quickly prepared his dimensional rifle with matans (monster bullets) as fast as he could.

Schklikt, klikt

Suhyuk reacted on reflex to this very familiar feeling.

Susususu!

As Suhyuk predicted, they started moving.

'Crap, absorbing dimensional force created the same effect of neutralizing a dungeon? I nodded too readily without thinking.'

Even so, he didn't have any thought to stop the absorption process.

The process changed a little bit but Suhyuk was thinking of hunting them in this way anyway.

'I need to kill these guys one way or another.'

Suhyuk analyzed his surroundings and began hunting the monsters. Suhyuk was already talented, but adding the Rank D precision shooting skill core made hunting monsters a piece of cake.

Suhyuk gradually increased his dimensional force through absorption and hunting monsters.

Suhyuk hunted 12 lesser monsters in the first dungeon. He

earned 79 dimensional force hunting the lesser monsters.

He also earned 101 dimensional force through his dimensional

absorption skills.

Originally there was 1010 dimensional force in the dungeon, but

the concentration was so faint he could only absorb 10% of it.

Suhyuk earned 180 dimensional force with one cleaning. This

level of hunting is not bad at all.

Suhyuk estimated the amount of radiation he's been collecting in

his body these past 10 years to be around only 4 thousand, this was

certainly a decent income.

Before, a minimum of 12 hours was needed to clean one dungeon.

Now, it only took 2 hours.

When Suhyuk finished cleaning out the dungeon, he checked his

status window.

Dimensional Power: 2352/4596

Dimension force had increased. The denominator marked amount of dimensional force gathered thus far and the numerator

marked the amount of dimensional force left after using various

skills.

'I need to increase the denominator to increase my dimensional level. I need a total of five thousand dimensional force to level up. I might be able to level up by today.'

Suhyuk quietly nodded and reconfirmed the location of the second dungeon that needed cleaning.

Collect dimensional force to increase his level.

Suhyuk could only think of this goal. So, he couldn't wait to clean out the 5 orders YeonGyu got for him.

The total amount of dimensional force Suhyuk earned in the remaining 4 dungeons was 124, 137, 164, and lastly 177.

A total of 602.

Suhyuk succeeded increasing his dimensional force level.

The total dimensional force has passed 5000.

Congratulations. Your dimensional level has become 20.

Di-ring, Your security rating has gone up from 99 to 98.

Diiiiii! You have transcended, system is opening.

2000 dimensional force has been consumed for opening transcender system. Time is required for the full transcension of the user's soul.

Watching the level go up was nice but seeing 2 thousand dimensional force fly out the window in a flash was heart wrenching.

Nevertheless, it was nice that the level and security rating increased. It was confusing what transcension meant, but according to what he's experienced so far, nothing but helpful things will occur.

'Phew, it's a first time I've cleaned up 5 dimensional dungeons within a day. I'm so tired.'

After working 14 straight hours without sleep, Suhyuk was able to clean up 5 dimensional dungeons squeaky clean.

'Let's get some sleep.'

Suhyuk's overall strength increased thanks to the passive level up system but hunting for 14 hours straight without rest was not easy at all.

On Suhyuk's way home, he called YeonGyu and reported the dimensional dungeon has been cleaned.

Although he finished all 5 cleaning jobs, he wasn't naive enough to report the whole truth.

Yeongyu was not stupid, if he reported all 5 jobs so quickly it would only raise suspicion so Suhyuk reported back to him in a moderate pace.

'But where do I clean tomorrow? I can't ask YeonGyu about more

'But where do I clean tomorrow? I can't ask YeonGyu about more jobs.... sigh, I don't know. I'm too tired right now, I'll go to sleep and think about this tomorrow.

Suhyuk shook his head and hopped onto his bike.

What Suhyuk needed the most at the moment was rest.

*

-Master...

-Master.....

A faint dream like voice.

-Master wake.....

-Master wake up.

Suhyuk finally had time to catch up on well needed rest when a voice woke him up.

"What the? Who is this?!"

Suhyuk awoke aggravated and angry. He looked around trying to find the source of the voice.

But no matter where he looked, nobody was to be found. Actually, the voice was resonating inside of his head.

- Master, let's skip the morning greetings. The current situation urgently needs your attention.

"Wh-Who are you?"

– My introduction will come later. Six rank 1 lesser monsters and three rank 2 lesser monsters are surrounding your house and are rapidly approaching. It will become dangerous if you don't quickly arm yourself.

"Gasp!"

Suhyuk immediately shot up from bed and swiftly pulled out his dimensional rifle and inserted some bullets.

Schklikt, klikt.

It was the same voice from the transcendental system so he decided it was better to trust it.

- The traps have activated.

PA PA PA PA PANG!

Several traps installed around his house exploded. The traps Suhyuk installed were primitive bombing traps but it was effective against rank 1 and 2 lesser monsters.

– Three of six rank 1 lesser monsters have died. Two more have been gravely damaged. However, one rank 1 and three rank 2 lesser monsters still remain.

Suhyuk listened to the friendly(?) explanation and aimed his dimensional rifle toward the sides he expected the monsters to enter. He had upgraded the dimensional rifle with a new control lever just recently.

- Rank 1 and Rank 2 lesser monsters will intrude into your home.

KWA KWA KWA KWANG!

The information provided was accurate to the level of being

creepy and 4 lesser monsters broke into the house the exact second.

Suhyuk pulled the trigger without hesitation.

dudududududu!

The dimensional rifle flared out bursts of fire with every shot. Since Suhyuk was currently on Earth and not a dimensional dungeon it would have been fine to use normal bullets but the situation was too urgent he used matans to get rid of the monsters.

It was the first time a large number of monsters rushed into his house he had little time to properly react, but thanks to the mysterious voice he had enough time of preparation to wipe out all the monsters without stress.

Suhyuk calmly wiped out the 4 monsters inside his house and jumped outside to finish off the two remaining rank 1 lesser monsters rolling around.

Thus, the 9 lesser monsters who attacked Suhyuk was destroyed.

In the process, Suhyuk gained a bit of dimensional force, but he had no luxury to feel happy because the absurd chain of events had stunned him stupid.

- All enemies have been destroyed. You have worked hard.

- "...... Who the hell are you?"
- -Please let me introduce myself.
- I am Kang Suhyuk's transcendental system assistant transcender 'X0001.'
 - "Transcendental system assistant?"
- Yes, in simple words I'm an artificial intelligence system of the transcendental system to help Master Suhyuk take advantage of the system to 100% I'm an transcender to be exact.... but the words to translate to the current times can only be explained as an artificial intelligence system.
 - "An AI.... so I'm your owner and you're my helper"
- That's right. Please feel free to drop all formalities with me. You may access my help in the same way you use the transcendence system. With just a thought, all of master's orders will be transferred to me.

"Then if I ask you a question, can you answer them for me?"

Suhyuk easily dropped formalities since the conversation was happening all in his head.

- As long as I have access to the information, I will be able to answer you. However, my security rating is the same as master's so information exceeding my security rating is not available.

"Is that so? There's one thing I've been wondering all this time, what the hell is the transcendental system?"

– I also do not know the correct definition of the transcendental system. This is only a guess, but our security rating must rise much more to figure this out. But one thing's for sure, the transcendental system will become a great strength and power to help master.

"I already know this....."

Suhyuk became slightly disappointed because he couldn't get the answer he wanted. Like the transcender was saying, if he wanted to have access to more information he will need to level up his security level.

- Did you have any other questions?

"What do I call you? Do I call you X0001?"

- Master can call me as you wish.

"Is that so? Then how about 'Yan?'

Yan was Suhyuk's puppy who died together with his family.

- Access to the system has been configured to 'Yan.'

"Okay, Yan. I've gotten the general understanding.

He didn't understand everything but Suhyuk figured out the general existence of the transcendental system.

- By the way, master. There is one important fact master must know.

"Huh? What is it?"

- The raid by the monsters did not happen by chance.

"It was not a coincidence? Then what is it? Why would monsters come attack me?"

Suhyuk was shocked from Yan's explanation.

– The dimensional radiation from yesterday's dimensional dungeon has been absorbed. However, the radiation has not fully dissolved into your body and is pooling in various parts of your body. The transcendental system is in the process of neutralizing the radiation, but the problem is it takes time. Therefore, all the monsters within 5km of you will sense the dimensional force from you and track you down.

"Ah....."

Suhyuk understood why monsters suddenly attacked him in his home all of a sudden.

"Then how much longer will the dimensional force remain pooled in my body until it's neutralized?"

- With my calculations it will take 1 hour 16 minutes and 44 seconds to neutralize everything.

"Then are there any monsters who will attack me again within that time frame?"

– Without consume further dimensional force, my navigation system can only scan up to 1km. And so, there are no monsters present within the 1 km radius. However you cannot rule out the possibility of monsters outside that radius from tracking you down.

Suhyuk could feel a bit assured with Yan's words.

'I shouldn't blindly absorb dimensional radiation in the future."

It would have been possible for a greater monster to attack Suhyuk just now.

Suhyuk could take care of lesser monsters, but greater monsters were an impossible opponent.

- That's right. I agree with master, you should think carefully before absorbing dimensional radiation from now on.

Suhyuk was slightly shocked when Yan read his mind and followed it up with a response, but the system worked with mental strength so he nodded in understanding.

"Then I should prepare for any surprise attacks that could happen within the next hour."

The morning was chaotic but the time wasn't spent wastefully.

Transcender Yan, it seems it will become a huge source of strength for Suhyuk in the future.

*

In case of another raid, Suhyuk only dismembered the dead monster's useful parts like its useful bones, teeth, and toes.

The rest was trash so he collected them for burning. After clearing his house Suhyuk pondered what to do next.

Suhyuk informed Yeongyu he finished clearing out the second and third dungeons, but he has yet to tell him the fourth and fifth dungeon has also been cleared so requesting for more jobs was impossible.

But sitting around idly seemed wasteful.

After obtaining the transcendental system, he was filled with vigor to do something. In the past, no amount of effort would change anything in Suhyuk's life. But everything was different now.

Now, there was many things he could obtain with effort.

One of the first wishes amongst Suhyuk's to do list was hunting greater monsters.

He could become stronger with effort now. Therefore, Suhyuk could not bear to waste even 1 second of 1 minute of his life anymore.

'It's been awhile since I entered a colony.'

Suhyuk who was trapped in his thoughts decided to enter a colony. Suhyuk will be hunting much more monsters than usual so he needed to purchase more monster bullets. He also needed to dispose the monster drops that has been collecting in his storage.

Suhyuk wanted to secure all the required equipments even if it meant spending all his wealth.

"It will be good to catch up on how the world is doing... maybe there are knight units searching for dungeon cleaners?"

Suhyuk didn't think it would be so bad to become an official dungeon cleaner for specific knight companies.

If he were to become a part of a proper knight company he might get a chance to clean Rank 3 dungeons. Then it would certainly help his growth exponentially.

But it was extremely hard to become a part of a knight company so he didn't have any huge expectations.

There were two ways a ghost like Suhyuk could enter a colony. An official and unofficial method.

The official way was to get a temporary entry permit. Ideally it was easy, but in reality the procedures to be issued one was complex with many rules.

Much money and time had to be spent, furthermore just the word 'dungeon cleaner' was enough to be outright rejected.

Therefore, Suhyuk did not like the official method much.

Suhyuk regularly snuck in through unofficial methods.

Unofficially, it is very simple.

It was to secretly bribe one of the gatekeepers of the colony borders to gain entry.

As long as you had a counterfeit entry permit and didn't cause trouble within the colony it was almost impossible to be found out.

Suhyuk would not stay long and he needed to bring in many items into the colony so using the official method was impossible. He snuck into Suwon colony through unofficial ways like always.

He needed to bribe the gatekeeper with a higher price than normal since he had a ton of items but in the end he would gain more through this transactions in the colony.

Creeeak, BOOM!

Once Suhyuk confirmed the gate close behind him, he continued into the inner colony.

Suwon Colony had a 'Grade A' barrier, 20m high and 7m thick. Suwon was one of the top 5 biggest colonies of South Korea so a "Grade A' barrier was common sense.

That's not all, the barrier was reinforced with an upgraded barrier systems every 2 years and always received an 'A+' rating from officials.

Suwon colony always had blue titans on stand by in tip top condition to defend against monsters which helped its citizens feel very secured.

These blue dragon titans belonged to the Blue Dragon Knight Company. The titan showed off an impressive blue dragon which spanned across from the titan's left shoulder all the way to the right.

The Blue Dragon Company used 2 blue dragons. One for use inside dungeons and the remaining for colony defense. The blue dragon outside in plain view was probably for the latter reason.

Its height was a staggering 8.1m and width of 4.4m. It was a similar size to normal titans but its gloves had many layers of external coating and gave off an intimidating look.

The blue dragon's horns looked like giant axes that could easily tear a monster in two with one breath. The blue dragon's model was a 3rd generation titan, one of the newest models.

There were rumors of a 4th generation titan but that was still in the development phase.

'It looks so cool no matter how many times I see it.'

Whenever Suhyuk visited Suwon colony, he would take some time to admire the blue dragon from afar. Suhyuk already operated the blue dragon thousands of times in his imagination. In reality, it was impossible to even admire the titan close up.

Suwon colony was traditionally the home to many strong knights. There were several talented private knight companies inside Suwon Colony, but the Blue Dragon Knight Company had the most popularity so the presence for the rest of the companies were practically nonexistant.

The world inside the colony was very different than the outside.

On the outside, the colony gave off a murky and end of the world feeling. But inside, it was not that way at all.

Rather, with the development from monster engineers human life became much more prosperous. Humans can now liver longer healthier lives and the basic living facilities cannot be compared to 20 years ago.

Lesser or greater monsters would appear time to time, but that would be dealt with swiftly and so survival against monsters were not much of a problem for people inside colonies.

Rather, there were more people who would die trying to hunt monsters inside dimensional dungeons than deaths inside colonies.

'Monster engineers estimated the average lifespan of citizens to be 90 years.... while ghosts had an average life span of about 50 years.' Suhyuk had a bitter expression thinking of the lifespan of citizens versus ghosts.

Following zero impact, society built colonies and the world population segragated into ranks.

Amongst the ranks of human society, knights were at the top. Knights were free from dimensional radiation and had an average lifespan of about 140 years.

Crucially, their strength exceeded normal human powers.

Knights had ranks of their own, but even mere soldier knights were highly respected by the rest of society.

If one had to explain, knights were like the nobility of the middle ages. Below knights, many others existed.

Other than knights, people of similar ranks were rich businessmen or talented monster engineers.

Amongst citizens, the lowest ranking were work ants who were promised security in exchange for manual labor. However, their quality of life was not too different from ghosts.

Work ants labored in large scale farms outside of colonies or in factories while living inside the colonies.

If you calculated accurately, ghosts had a little more room to live comfortably because work ants had to labor while paying hefty taxes to live inside colonies.

Suhyun headed to the black market while thinking of various things.

The black market existed in the slums located in the H section of Suwon colony. The Suwon Colony management was aware of the black market, but they didn't care to rid of its existence because the black market was a necessary evil so they tacitly recognized them.

kkkeee.

Suhyuk opened the door to the store he visited regularly. You would think the black market would be dark and filled with cigarette smoke, but in reality it was not so.

On the outside, it seemed to be a café who sold coffee and various other soft drinks.

"Oh! Who do we have here? Kiddo! It's been a while."

The store owner smiled brightly while standing up from his seat. This was the big boss of Suwon Colony's black market Seo WonTaek.

He was also Suhyuk's life savior.

"Hello."

Suhyuk did not care for others, but for Seo Wontaek, he felt nothing but great respect. When Suhyuk lost everything and had to dig through trash for food, Seo Wontaek taught him skills to survive as a proper human. He taught Suhyuk how to survive in this hellish world. He lent all the necessary basic equipment when Suhyuk annouced he would jump into the dungeon cleaning business.

However, Seo Wontaek is not such a generous business man to handout free charity. He made himself clear to Suhyuk, he was making an investment. Suhyuk would need to repay the debts with additional interest later on.

In fact later, he made exact calculations for the interest and collected all the debt. Still, it didn't change the fact that Seo Wontaek was Suhyuk's life savior.

"It's been so long I thought you retired from the cleaning business."

"like I'll ever retire. The jobs drastically decreased these days so I don't need as much equipment now."

"True, the job market isn't the same anymore. The knight companies are trying to take control of the cleaning jobs now.... they used to say it was too troublesome and throw away the monster parts.

"The job market for knights are just as tough these days. I heard there are soldier ranked knights who work as helpers these days, is that true?"

"It's not just a handful, they call all soldier ranked knights helpers these days. The amount of knights have increased a ton so it's difficult to get into a knight company with a mere soldier rank.

"It's that bad?"

"That's why the knights take care of the dead monster parts now when before it was just a troublesome peasant job"

"Oh, I see."

Suhyuk finally understood why the jobs available drastically decreased recently from Seo WonTaek's words.

"Additionally, the demand for monster bones and teeth drastically increased. Lesser monsters can't compare to greater monsters, but lesser monsters have claws and teeth as strong as steel. More people have been creating affordable versions of weapons with lesser monsters bones instead of solely relying on greater monsters for raw material since they don't turn to stone in dungeons like normal metals.

"I guess the supply for greater monster bones is lacking compared to the demand."

"The amount of greater monsters being caught has not changed, but the demand for its supplies exponentially increased so this result can't be helped."

Monster engineers call the raw materials extracted from greater monster bones as 'adamantium.' Adamantium is a legendary fictional element that does not exist in reality, but monster engineers attached this name because a greater monster's bones are metal in nature.

"The market price must have risen as well, right?"

"Greater monster bones are expensive, but lesser monsters only rose by a little bit."

"Then has the price for matans gone up?"

Matans are the main weapon to gauge the average market price for weapons. When the price of matans rise, every other material will rise along with it.

"No, matan's market price has gone down. More people are producing matans from lesser monsters so the price drastically fell.

"Is that so? Quality is not a problem?"

"Not at all! The skills of closet smiths have drastically increased

so you'll find bullets produced from lesser monsters to be better quality than previous versions made from greater monsters."

Seo Wontaek refered black market weapon smiths as closet smiths.

"Incredible."

"the world is changing in a horrifying fast pace. Did you know that? The titans produced in the earlier days are used for construction in the colony now."

"Ah! The antique robots anyone could control and not the ones especially made for a knight's private use, right?"

"Yes, that's right. People weren't allowed to use the antique for every day tasks like construction, but now people are using it without a second thought like nothing. The world became such a convenient place."

"They're probably only using the antique titans because they are made from steel."

The raw materials used to produce newer generation Titans are 100 percent adamantium (greater monster's bones). This was the only way Titans can be useful inside dungeons.

However, Titans made from steel exist as well. Steel titans are useless inside dungeons since they turn into nothing but dead

weight, but they are quite useful outside of dungeons.

Colonies therefore keep steel titans for purely defense purposes.

"Now, what do you want? Matans? Neutralizer?"

"I want to dispose these items first. Then, I want 4 boxes of matans as well as 1 box of neutralizers. Please give me 2 boxes of normal matans, 1 box of burning matans, and 1 box of explosive matans.

Suhyuk dropped his large backpack and listed the items he needed to purchase.

"Why did you need so much burning and explosive matans? You said it was too expensive and didn't bother looking at them before."

"I did, but my situation is getting dangerous these days so I thought i would purchase some."

Burning and explosive matans are about a hundred times more powerful than normal matans.

"I've heard much have changed for the worst outside the colonies these days. Then why don't you try ice matans too? This also has good performance." "Whatever you call it, it's only a simple monster bullet. No matter how many special tricks you shove into a matan, it has its limits. I only need burning and explosive bullets.

"It's as you say, a matan is just a matan. Then shall I provide your usual mithril crafts?"

Seo WonTaek said while nodding along to Suhyuk's statement. There are many useful monster weapons invented by monster engineers these days but monster weapons have their limits.

"Yes, I'll take that one."

Mithril crafters were one of Korea's top three Matop.

Matop were locations monster craftsmen craft, but to be considered a 'Matop' the location needs to be moderately large in scale.

Once Seo WonTaek received the orders, he pushed the showcase to one side. On the other side, a new room was revealed.

Countless items were piled up inside. Most were dungeon weapons black listed for personal transactions.

Seo WonTaek quickly organized the needed items and returned the showcases to its original position.

"Four boxes of matan. I'll subtract the necessary amount of money from the monster bones you've brought me.

"If you don't have enough, please call. I'll deposit it right away."

"From the sheer amount, it should be more than enough."

"Thank you."

Suhyuk bowed respectfully once more.

"I've said this to you before but, I've reaped the profits by collecting all the debts plus interest already. There's no need for you to behave so respectfully since you don't owe me anything anymore.

"Even so, it doesn't change the fact that boss is my life's savior."

He lost everyone he ever cherished and now the only person he was close to was Seo WonTaek. And so, it couldn't be helped Suhyuk felt so much respect for Seo WonTaek.

"I should really give you credit for that stubborn nature of yours."

Seo WonTaek had a hopeless face and shook his head.

"I'll take my leave then."

After Suhyuk pulled out all the monster's bones, he packed 4 boxes of matan and neutralizers.

Now that he purchased all his needed items, it was time to go around the colony for some information.

"Yes, goodby... Oh, wait a minute. Are you interested in cleaning Rank 3 dungeons?"

"Rank 3? Of course I will do it if available."

"Is that so? That's great then. There was someone looking for dungeon cleaners who are good at keeping secrets, are you interested?"

"Yes, of course I'm interested."

The dungeon wasn't a rank 1 or 2, but a rank 3.

That meant it was possible to collect much more dimensional force. Suhyuk, who've been starved of dimensional force, couldn't help but show interested.

Chapter 5: Level 3 Dungeon

"It is not a formal mission. I think a group made up of newbie knights, in order to earn some experience, are trying to tackle a level 3 dungeon. Since they didn't receive a formal knight training, they are trying to find a cleaner that will keep his mouth shut."

"In that case, they could simply clear the dungeon and then call in the cleaner, and yet they want to take a cleaner along?"

"Since they just became knights, they don't have that much money. They worked hard to find level 3 dungeon, as well as the key to open the dungeon, but if they only catch the demons, they will only break even, so they thought. Therefore, they decided to clear the beasts as well, and it was in that process that they needed a cleaner."

"It's the really rich folks that go overboard, it seems like."

"You can't help it. This type of jobs is common now days."

"How much are they paying?"

"Around \$500 I think. However, since the dungeon they are attacking is not registered with the colony, if you keep their secrets, they will compensate you for all the used supplies, and they will add \$200 more at the end."

"They did a good job of hiding class 3 dungeon from the colony,

didn't they?"

"It barely passed as a level 3 dungeon, therefore it didn't register with the quest device, probably. Since the dungeon classification system was man-made there will be some that escape the device from time to time."

In reality, basic cleaning payment for level 3 dungeon was \$1000. Even if you take consideration of the cost of the expendables, once the beasts had been properly slaughtered and sold, there would be more than enough to cover \$1000 cleaning fee.

Of course in order to clean level 3 dungeon, it takes at least 9 days, but a cleaning job that can bring in a decent money is a class 3 dungeon cleanup.

For them to pay only \$700 for such a dungeon can only make one feel less than happy, but never the less, SuHyuk agreed to the job.

For SuHyuk, who valued dimensional force (DF) more than the money, he wanted to do whatever it took to be included in the hunt.

"Sure, I will do it."

"Good choice. It's difficult to find even this kind of jobs now days. That is the reality."

SuHyuk listened to SuhWonTae and couldn't do anything but to

admit that YunGuu was a very skillful broker.'

Was it because it was SuhWonTae's introduction? Or was it that they were in a hurry? There was no definite answer, but SuHyuk's addition to the team was very quickly taken care of.

As he also wanted to enter the dungeon as quickly as possible, there was no problem.

They immediately gave SuHyuk the location of the dungeon, and, as for SuHyuk, he left the colony as soon as he received the location. Afterwards, he called YunGuu immediately to let him know that he had finished cleaning the 4th and 5th dungeon. He did that since cleaning out the level 3 dungeon would take a few days. As for the equipment, because he had organized his equipment while moving in and out of the house, all that was left was to head out.

The location of the level 3 dungeon was inside of an old collapsed department store in an area that was used to be called JuukJun. Once he arrived at the location, representative of the knights working as a helper received him.

"Nice to meet you. My name is Lee WuJin." Even if looking at him with just one eye, he seemed like a veteran with a lot of years.

Recently, there have been some stories that old veteran knights

started to work as helpers, but even now there are more helpers without a knight background. Especially, these special groups of helpers were loan-type soldiers often labeled as "reinforced humans."

There wasn't much to the reinforced humans. Once upon a time, they were receiving more attention than the Titans, and they were considered as innovative epitome of demon engineering, as they received artificial mana circuit implanted into their bodies.

The intent of the project was to make artificial knights, but in the hindsight, it was a gruesome failure.

Not only were they weaker than the natural knights, but because they had the mana circuit implanted in them, the circuit had required quite a bit of mana consumption, and that was not cost effective.

At first, optimistic view was that they would be able to get rid of all the demons, and therefore received a lot of praise, but in reality it was better off to train a human knight.

Though, at one time, the reinforced humans were so popular that countries all over the world were making them, now days, with the overabundance of these rejects resulted in no one making them anymore. As such, these reinforced humans, because they required profession that brought in enough money to satisfy their mana intake, they left the military and took on a helper profession. It is for this reason that there were so many reinforced humans that were helpers.

Lee WuJin was one of those reinforced humans. As a veteran reinforced human of 15 years, he can be considered as one of the prototype reinforced humans.

He was 38 years old, but due to faster aging seen in reinforced humans, he looked like he was in his late 40s.

"My name is Kang SuHyuk."

"Sorry for asking you to hurry. We had hard time finding a cleaner so we were thinking of starting the raid without a cleaner."

"Ah, is that so." SuHyuk understood why they were in hurry.

"As you can see, those three over there are the main fighers, the knights, and including me, there are 4 helpers.

Having briefed about the team, SuHyuk took a look at the group.

'Excluding this guy, aren't these helpers amateurs? No way, aren't those knights amateurs as well?' Because he was constantly going in and out of the dungeon for over 10 years, he was able to, instantly, assess whether the fighters were experienced or not. Nevertheless, a knight that seems to be the leader appeared as if he had some experience under his belt.

Noticing SuHyuk's facial expression keep on turning for the

worse, WuJin approached him and whispered to him. "Looks like you pretty much figured out....me and the captain are the only two individuals that have any experience fighting in the dungeon, and the captain is a 1 year veteran in the military."

"Even if there are three knights, they are pretty much newbies. Are we gonna be okay?" SuHyuk followed WuJin's example and whispered back.

"There shouldn't be any big problems. Actually, I wasn't too happy either, but jobs, now days, are hard to come by so I had to join them. Aren't you in the same boat?"

Whether it was the helpers or the cleaners, their situations were pretty much the same.

"Yes, pretty much." Apprehending the situation, SuHyuk nodded.

"No matter how inexperienced they are, since there are three knights it shouldn't be too dangerous. As for the helpers, I will be in charge of them so you should be able to focus on cleaning behind them."

By the time the two pretty much finished up their conversation, team captain Lee HoSuk lead the team toward the dungeon. He didn't really care enough to bother talking to SuHyuk the cleaner. Not only that, besides the knights, the only person that he spoke to was WuJin.

"Alright, let's go."

Jeeeing, churkuk!

Very expensive looking dimensional key entered the dungeon lock and it disappeared as it unlocked the lock.

Lee HoSuk was determined to sweep all the demons and beasts in the dungeon in order to pay for the dimensional key. Slaughtering the beasts into sell-able portions was a hassle, but luckily at the last moment a cleaner joined up.

John Lane, aka The Iron Hurk, was known as the cream of the crop celebrity among the hero level knights. One out of his top 10 basic rules of dungeon sweeping was, "Dungeon sweeping must not be done in haste."

This sounded kind of simple, but in reality, it was a very important statement. One must be composed and must keep a sound mind, but not everybody adhere to such simple statement.

"We are going too fast." Wujin spoke his mind to HoSuk once more.

"This is not fast. All we have to do is catch the dungeon boss. Why be so careful when it is only a level 3 demon? Did you forget that we have 3 knights over here?"

Usually, in level 3 dungeon, level 2-3 demons are the dungeon bosses. Also, level 3 demon was something the soldier level knights would have no problem handling. If only thinking up to this point, what Lee HoSuk said would be correct, but in reality it was a dumb statement.

"As I have told you before, it is not about the level 3 demon. I am saying this just in case we make a mistake and we invite wave of demons and beasts."

If the initial plan was to systemically sweep the beasts and demons from one end to the other, WuJin would not have said anything, but HoSuk's plan was to shoot straight to where dungeon boss "should" be and kill it first. This was what's called "Point Break" strategy. Of course, the rest of the beasts will be dealt with afterwards.

It really didn't matter what strategy one picked, and point break strategy was not bad. However, WuJin's point of view was that their pace was just too quick.

"I will personally pull the boss. That will take care of the problem don't you think? You are not thinking that I will cause a wave, like an amateur, do you?"

"It's not that, but..." Since HoSuk said it like that, WuJin couldn't say anything anymore. If he contradicted HoSuk, at this point, it was same as looking down upon HoSuk, as if he was an amateur.

"Then stop talking. No matter how experienced you are and no matter how much skill you have got. Ultimately, I am the leader of this group. Therefore, follow my decision." An authoritative and oppressive attitude.

Not all knights are like that, but there are many knights that think that they were the center of the world.

'I don't feel good about this...' Having witnessed this interaction from the rear point, SuHyuk quietly shook his head.

'Yan, how much DF did I collect so far?'

-it totals 490.

'It is definitely a lot. It has only been 4 hours, and I have 490...we didn't even catch one demon...ah, this honey train must keep on going, but...'

Even though his job description was dungeon cleaner, sticking to the rear and being out of the way of the group was not all there was to being a cleaner. In combat situations, cleaners would also participate in the battle.

Since the ever so 'oh so important' knights in this group were too big to be involved in beast subjugation, SuHyuk was able to sweep the beasts to his content. Entertaining aspect about this arrangement for SuHyuk was that one earns the DF according to the contribution one puts in during the sweep. As such, SuHyuk went out of his way to subjugate the beasts even when it was not expected of him. He was so proficient in marksmanship that he was even praised by WuJin.

'Yan, by chance, are you able to tell how many beasts are near by?'

-When inside of the dungeon, to scan beyond 100 meter require DF expenditure. Would you like me to use some DF to increase the scan radius?

'No, even if you find anything they will not listen to me anyway...just keep me posted within the 100 meter radius.'

-Okay.

Just in case, SuHyuk told Yan to scan systematically and took out some magazines from his backpack and hung some grenades on his vest.

'I don't care how much conscience that guy lack, but at least have some skills to compensate for it.'

SuHyuk looked at Lee HoSuk as if he was praying. HoSuk announced that he would advance 500 meters on his own to pull the dungeon boss to their location.

The size of the level 3 dungeon, on average, was about 2-4 square kilometers. It was not a small size. Also, because this dungeon's terrain was that of a jungle, it seemed especially big.

To kill a boss is like killing a dungeon. Two things happen once boss is killed. First is that the length of time that the dungeon is accessible to outsiders expands to 10 times the amount, and second is that the dungeon exit is created. What is interesting is that even though there was only one entrance from the outside, but from the inside, there are two exit doors that open up. As expected, the doors were one-way doors.

That means unless the boss is killed, the entrants are stuck inside the dungeon. Of course the dungeons do periodically open up even if the boss was not killed. "Dungeon Break" was the term used to describe this periodic opening of the dungeon. However, if the dungeons opens up on its own while there are entrants inside, they tend to be forced out right along with the demons, and thus, they become the very first meal outside of the dungeon for the demons. It is for this reason that the sweepers must sweep clear the dungeon before the dungeon opens up on its own.

Once 10 minutes passed by, slowly SuHyuk became anxious.

'He should have been back....'

In actuality, not everyone can "pull," Lee HoSuk was acting confident, but in SuHyuk's experience, real good teams always had designated pullers, and such pullers were really treasured.

Since he knew the difference, he was uneasy.

Lee HoSuk made it sound like all he had to do was to head over there and annoy the boss a little bit and simply return. If he wasn't a knight, SuHyuk would have slapped the back of his head already. Even though SuHyuk was only a cleaner, he had studied the dungeon earnestly, and thus, he knew that Lee HoSuk's baseless confidence will only bring disaster for the group.

-there is a chunk of DF at the outer edge of 100 meter radius

'Just one?'

-yes, just one. Looking at the size of the DF, it seems like about level 3 demon.

'Can you give me more detail?'

-500 DF must be consumed in order to gain better information. Would you like to spend some?

'Crazy....why so much?' Just thinking about 100 DF was making him hesitate with worry, but 500 DF was just too big of a number.'

-It will soon get in the visual field.

While SuHyuk was talking to Yan, huge level 3 demon, looking like a pile of stones, divided the vegetations and came into our

view. And of course, in front of it was the Lee HoSuk.

'Ho-oh, did he succeed?'

Seeing HoSuk's silhouette, SuHyuk had a better impression of the captain. However, such thought shattered in exactly 2 seconds.

-Just beyond 100 meter there are multitudes of DF clusters showing up. 24 Beast, 4 second level demons are approaching.

"Cr, Crazy!" As soon as he heard Yan's report, profanity shot out. He didn't succeed. He pulled the boss right along with the rest of the beasts that were around the boss. This was an event that all sweepers fear, the 'Wave.'

"Yiaaaahhh!" Lee HoSuk screamed a little bit too late as he turned around. Of course, he realized that he had caused the wave. If he was a seasoned puller, as soon as he realized that he had caused the wave, he would have headed in a direction opposite of the group and died alone. However, he was a stupid knight that was afraid of dying. Therefore, hoping that the group could kill off the beasts, he pulled them toward the group.

'Th, This bastard.'

No matter how you looked at it, it was a clear declaration saying, "lets die together."

Lee HoSuk, though late, took hold of himself and faced against

the demon, but from SuHyuk's point of view, soldier level knight Lee HoSuk definitely wouldn't be able to contain this wave.

Lee HoSuk was one of those morphing type knights. His right arm morphed into a big shield and his left arm turned into pointy and sharp sword. It was a style of morph that was known to be popular among the morphing type knights. They called it 'swordshield morph.' In addition, his body slightly enlarged as an added supplementation for the morph.

'Oh ho, having morphed into swordshield morph, he is also a reinforced type? With that combination, he should be capable of being an officer level knight.'

Though reinforcement alone wasn't much to be proud about, but when combining two different technologies into one man meant that Lee HoSuk's talent was at least not trashy. However, the problem was that no matter how much potential he had showed, in this situation, he wasn't that big of a help. He had the typical tanker's ability, but there was no way he could block all of the demons and the beasts alone.

Not only that, the two newbie knights Lee HoSuk had brought along seemed only flashy in their appearance. In terms of their actual worth, they were confused and so helpless that they couldn't fully utilize their innate abilities. They were just taking up space.

'Those kids....did they even receive basic training?'

Once you move up the ranks to become a knight, world knight group (WKG) gives them a one month long training. The training was free, but because it was told that they do pretty good job of giving basic training, most of the knights received their training. However, these two jokers, no matter how you look at them, didn't seem like they went to that training. It may be that Lee HoSuk might have told them that he would train them himself. Whatever the case may be, the situation was not good.

Koong koong koong!

Blue stone demon. Blue stones were stacked on top of each other and were covering arms, legs, and the head. It was about 4 meters tall, and in entirety, arms and legs were short so it bobbled slightly as it moved. This was the level 3 dungeon boss. Lee HoSuk was the very first one to collide with the boss demon. At least he was capable of pulling his own weight. Then the next person pulling his own weight was Lee WuJin.

"Don't be scared and concentrate on firing!" Even though the situation was not great, as it was better than standing there to be killed off without a fight, he quickly gave orders as he readied both of his arms with dimension rifles.

If it was a normal soldier, handling the recoil of one rifle would be the limit, but as an reinforced human, handling two rifles weren't very hard thing to do.

Unlike others, SuHyuk had already fired at the level 3 demon that Lee HoSuk was fighting even before Lee WuJin yelled out his orders.

'We must take care of that one first.'

WuJin and SuHyuk's rifles were, at the same time, bursting with fire.

Thoo-thoo-thoo!

They focused all of their firepower on the level 3 demon while Lee HoSuk had its attention.

Lee HoSuk was doing fairly well. Also, even the two stooge knights, in response to the overwhelming number of the demons and the beasts, they started to reveal their strength.

One knight, by the looks of the flashes coming out of one of his hands, he was a piercing type fighter and the other one was pounding the beasts with his bare hands, meaning he was a reinforced type.

'This level 3 demon....is it moss rock demon?' It was SuHyuk's dream to be able to fight one on one with a demon. Therefore, with his spare time, he had read up on demon hunting books, and once he had exhausted all of the book resources, he had started to depend on internet sources. Therefore, his expertise was quite good, to be able to be on the same level as the more experienced helper, Lee WuJin.

- Accurately speaking, it is a blue moss rock demon.

Because of a sudden response by Yan, SuHyuk was startled.

'What? You even know names of the demons?'

– I just naturally knew when I looked at it. If you want to find out more, I can use some DF to....

'I'll pass for now' SuHyuk was fairly knowledgeable regarding the moss rock demon.

Moss rock demon's biggest asset was the moss. These mosses had the capability to continuously regenerate. Of course, moss was not a benign yard decoration. It had the effect of nullifying close-combat style attacks by way of making attacks slip and absorbing impacts in place of the rock. i.e., it had a very solid defense in close combat. On top of that, because its body is a living organism type, it had developed tolerance to many variety types of attacks.

Electric, fire, ice, and other mainstream attacks had very little effect on the rock demon. Therefore, if the goal was to kill the demon, physical impact attacks must be focused on the rock crevices, but even that was hampered by the presence of the moss. As such, moss rock demon's difficulty level was classified fairly high up among the level 3 demons.

There are two popular means of getting around this problem, but first is to have numerous flame type knights to constantly burn away the moss faster than it can regenerate itself, and while the moss has been neutralized, helpers are to concentrate their firepower unto the bare rock surface to fell the demons.

Second method was to use the Titans, which would be a piece of cake.

'But, at this moment, we can't utilize any of the two options. Then....' If you don't have any fingernails, then you will just have to fight with bare fingers.

Churkuk.

SuHyuk, quickly, pulled out a magazine that was labeled with a red tape and swapped out the normal magazine from his weapon with the one with the red tape. At the same time, after readying his rifle butt inside his armpit, he concentrated on the demon.

'Yan, are you capable of highlighting that guy's sword trajectory?'

-that knight's movement is not that fast so, if I can use DF to activate the 'visual assistance system,' it is possible.

'Then do so.'

He didn't want to use any DF, but now was not the time to complain.

As soon as SuHyuk gave it a go, visual assistance system activated

and red lines appeared in his vision. The red lines were not only outlining Lee HoSuk's swing direction, but it was also showing the intended path of the sword's tip.

Even though there were demons and monsters everywhere, SuHyuk completely ignored them. After 20 years of having experienced something much worse than this, he was able to keep his poise to a normal level.

'Now!'

After, looking at the demon with unbreakable concentration, SuHyuk, finally, had the right timing and he squeezed the trigger.

Tatatata~ng!

He was aiming for blue moss rock demon's flank. To be precise, the point of his aim was corresponding to the point that HoSuk's sword tip was heading toward.

KaKhawng, pha-rrrrk!

As soon as SuHyuk's rifle expelled a stream of fire, moss rock demon's flank also lighted with fire. Inside of his special magazine were a very high-end flame ammos, but technically, it wasn't that special. As such, even if SuHyuk used this special ammo on the moss rock demon, moss on the demon would only briefly disappear at the moment of contact. Once the impact and effect of the ammo ends, it would quickly regenerate as if nothing has

happened.

That was all he could do to help HoSuk.

If there were 5 helpers, each equipped with thousand rounds of flame ammo, and they all concentrated on one spot of the moss rock demon, they could deal some serious damage, but what little that SuHyuk fired just now would have been very negligible, but this time, the situation was a bit different.

KaKhawng, Zhuuuk!

SuHyuk was not delusional enough to think that he would directly deal damage to the rock demon. Realistically, that was impossible. Therefore, he resorted to using the most effective method of damaging the rock demon, and that was dependent on Lee HoSuk.

If it was his left arm, morphed into a sturdy and sharp sword, was doing the attacking, the damage would be possible. What SuHyuk did was to make sure that the moss does not get in the way of HoSuk's attack.

It could be seen as nothing special in that it can be seen as a mere coincidence, but it was more than that. He had to time his shot with reference to HoSuk's swing, and at the same time, he had to have the ability to shoot where he intended.

For him to be able to accomplish that with all the madness

around him was something special.

"Whoa!" The one that was most surprised at the result was HoSuk. In truth, he was swinging his sword with half desperation, but it ended up hitting. He didn't know who timed the round to supplement his attack, but if such help was repeatable he was confident that he could kill off the blue moss rock demon.

'Once more,'

Since all that he can do was swing, Lee HoSuk swung again. But, even this time, right before his swing landed, there was a red burst of flame.

KaKhawng, pha-rrrrk!

"That's it!" Now that he had witnessed the repeat of the previous miracle, Lee HoSuk was brimming with confidence. The situation has not improved, overall, but if this continued, he was sure he could kill the boss at least.

Chapter 6: Survival And Transcendental Store

KuKuKuung!

Finally, what used to be the dungeon boss, blue moss rock demon fell.

- You gained 5516 DF out of 14277DF from killing the blue moss rock demon.

As compared to before, SuHyuk was able to earn an amount of DF that differed by a decimal place from this killing of the blue moss rock demon, but now was not the time to think about this kind of stuff.

"Kuoc!"

Lee HoSuk squeezed up the last ounce of his remaining strength to kill off the blue moss rock demon, but he had exhausted just too much of his strength. As soon as the moss rock demon fell, he was tackled by the level 2 'Red Canine Leopard' demon and it had tore through his neck.

The source of knight's strength was, without a doubt, mana. Most basic thing that differentiates between a knight and a normal person is whether one has mana or not.

Knights infuse mana into their body and use skills that only they can use, and from this point, depending on what kind of strength was generated, they are diversified into offensive type or defensive type. Knights are the ones, ever since very little, that utilized mana based on their inborn skills. However, a raw mana itself was a powerful source of strength. Therefore, in times of need, they simply convert the mana energy into an energy shield. They used to call that mana shield, and as long as you are a knight you could use mana in this manner regardless of your level.

In current situation, Lee HoSuk would have definitely utilized mana as a shield, but he had exhausted too much mana fighting the moss rock demon, and he couldn't use the shield when he needed it the most.

Chaaak, Tersuk.

Lee HoSuk splashed his blood everywhere as he finally fell down. He had a hollow death. If he was able to hold on for just a bit more, perhaps he would have, at least, given rest of the group a thread of hope. However, with his fall, all that potential disappeared.

The situation was, even before Lee HoSuk fell, the two knights, in name only, were already victims of two level 2 demons, and the helpers, excluding Lee WuJin, were kept on shooting nothing but air before they got overwhelmed by the beasts and died.

The count during a brief intercession was, the opponent consisting of two level 2 demons and 5 beasts and friendly consisting of SuHyuk and Lee WuJin.

No matter who looked at the situation, it was a desperate situation for the good guys.

Krrrrrrrr!

The remaining Demons and the beasts were currently tearing through the dead corps while keeping an eye on Lee WuJin and SuHyuk. It felt like, if things stayed the same, both of them would end up dead and have their innards spread all across the field.

"Damn it.....It really is a bad day."

WuJin's face was all wrinkled with worry as he shook his head. Then he looked straight at SuHyuk.

"You said your name was Kang SuHyuk right? Since things happened like this, wouldn't it be better for the younger guy to be given better chance at survival? Well, even if we do this does not mean that you will survive, but I will make whatever attempts to increase your chance of survival so live with all your worth." WuJin didn't bother to listen to SuHyuk's reply.

From his stand point, WuJin felt that, in this situation, there was nothing else he could do. In truth, he knew that even SuHyuk's chance at life was very slim. It could be thought that if he was going to die, he might as well, bluff his way to death.

Tatatatatatatang!

WuJin gathered all of the mana that he had left and reequipped both of his arms with his two rifles and fired them toward the two level 2 demons as he bolted toward them. That was the best he could do at that moment.

SuHyuk also moved at the same time that WuJin moved. He didn't stop to thank WuJin nor did he hesitate because he felt ashamed. Reading WuJin's last intent, transpired through the sharpness of his eyes, SuHyuk instantly took out the grenades that he had already readied and threw them in the direction of the demons and beasts while running in the direction where there weren't any beasts or demons. KaKawKang!

'I won't say thank you, but I will make sure to survive and make your sacrifice worth a fortune.'

Because he spent his childhood in places like this, even this situation wasn't capable of making him lose his nerve. Only thing that was on his mind was worrying about how he will survive.

KaKawKang!

SuHyuk threw the last remaining grenades behind him and slowed the beasts to the best of his ability.

'Yan, keep on scanning behind me to tell me who is behind me, and cut out some topographical map for me.'

- Vision protection system requires usage of DF....

'It isn't time to be worrying about the expenditure of mana right now. Just do it.'

Charrrrk!

Instantly his field vision expanded in all direction and topographical features that were front of him were marked with translucent marks. Since she had received an "okay" on usage of DF, she didn't ask anymore about using it.

- 400m behind you, there are a couple of level 3 beast and one level 2 demon following you with twice the speed that you are running.

'Damn....even if they were field type monsters, their speed was just too fast.

If nothing changed, they would catch up with him in just a few minutes. Two level 3 beasts weren't impossible for SuHyuk to kill, but level 2 demon, no, red canine leopard demon was out of his league. The situation was that even running away didn't raise his chance of surviving, but his eyes caught a little thread of hope.

'Is that a swamp that's ahead?'

– yes, that is a swamp

'maybe......this just might work, but....If I hide in the swamp, would they be able to find me?'

-With my analysis, the chance of them finding you is less than 10%. Demons and beasts tend to locate their prey with their eyes and nose. Especially since their noses are sensitive to mana, their chance of finding you is quite high because mana is different from other scent in that scent from the mana can't be erased, but that does not apply to you. If you throw away all your equipment and get below the water you would have a very high chance of eluding them.

As soon as he heard Yan's analysis, with not even a slight hesitation, he started to take his gear off as he ran toward the swamp. Only thing that he kept with him was the muzzle portion of the rifle that he instantly took apart, in order to use for breathing.

'If even this does not work then I will let you kill me without any resistance.'

SuHyuk did all he could do up to this point.

'If I breathe as gentle as possible, I can last a long time.' It was a struggle for survival, but this type of struggle was nothing to SuHyuk.

'Yan, report to me about the surroundings in real time.'

- okay. The only thing he could trust was Yan. Do I die or do I live. That was something that he would find out in just a few moments. 'Yan, how long has it been since they left?' - exactly 31 minutes and 44 seconds has passed. ' Really? Emmm....Then, using the DF, scan the 500 meter radius for me.' - okay. - Thric, I have scanned 500 meters radius of this location. - It is clean. There are no demons or beasts signatures. After earnestly checking everything possible, SuHyuk finally resurfaced his head out of the swamp. Even though he checked multiple times, he didn't dare to relax. It

was this aspect of his that had kept him safe for all these years.

'Whew, I survived.'

Once he realized that he was safe, he retrieved all the equipment that he had thrown all across the field. Thankfully, demons and beasts didn't take away his equipment. It could be that because they were animalistic rather than humanoid type beings, and thus, they didn't have any interest in them.

Though it wasn't imperative that he find all of his equipment, it was very important that he find all the parts to his rifle. The next important thing was the backpack because his food was in it.

'I should have enough to last me for 4 days if I ration out my food carefully, and as for water, it should be okay if I just find a running water right?'

Truthfully speaking, people shouldn't eat anything from the dungeon. Because everything in the dungeon are infused with DF, if one was to eat to much, it would be the same as concentrating DF inside of the body.

Even the knights do not eat food procured inside the dungeon. Even though DF exposure does not affect them, but that did not mean that they were capable of ingesting foods containing DF.

If DF gets concentrated inside of the body by way of ingestion, DF will remain inside the body, forever, until body uses up mana to burn it away. To let the ingested DF get stored inside and let it accumulate over the years is no different from having a bomb inside of the body, and thus knights do not do anything that may

promote internal storage of DF.

With that said, SuHyuk was special. He was one person in the world that can eat anything procured inside of the dungeon. If he runs out of food he can eat the root of a tree, if he has to. Therefore, there was no reason why his dungeon survivability would not increase higher and higher.

'Yan, how much longer did the dungeon break increase?'

– Yes, because the dungeon boss was killed off, next time dungeon break will occur is 780 hours 41 minutes and 16 seconds.

Because dungeon boss was defeated, normal length of dungeon break increased to 780 hours from 78 hours. That was ten times the normal rate.

'780 hours is near one month long. If I can only exit the dungeon, I will be able to make good use out of this dungeon.'

If he was to pick one thing that he was thankful for, that would be that the boss dungeon was dead. Because it was dead, the length of the dungeon break lengthened and the exit also appeared. There were still some demons and the beasts that were left. To a good team, that wouldn't be a problem.

Normally, dungeons where the boss has been killed off are sold at high prices, and these dungeons are called 'point cleared' dungeons. If SuHyuk can find the exit and escape, he would be in the position to make some good money.

'Even though thinking about the pulling fiasco from earlier still makes me vexed, I am thankful that he, at least, pulled his own weight before he died.' SuHyuk thought of Lee HoSuk and nodded his approval.

'For now....., carefully go back to the battle sight and see whether I can recover anything worthwhile. Then go look for the exit.'

No matter how dire the situation may be, there was no point in abandoning blue moss rock demon's carcass when it hasn't even been dismantled and packed to be sold in the market. The boss's carcass was something that he had the rights to. Also, when the contenders to the carcass were all dead, it was natural that the survivor takes it all.

'Yan, I didn't really have the chance to ask, but it is true that my DF level increased, right?'

- Yes, your level went up during the combat. Should I open up the table to show you?

'Yeah, do that.'

As soon as he gave a 'go,' Yan, immediately, opened up the table in front of SuHyuk's eyes.

```
[Name: Kang SuHyuk] [Age: 25] [Profession: Dungeon Cleaner]
 [Level: 24] [Dimensional Force: 9146/12841]
 [Race: Human] [Control System: Transcendental System X-4]
 [Basic Skill: (Precision Shooting-D)]
 [Additional Skill (1): (empty)]
 [Inventory: Demon Shell (200), Poison Demon Shell (100), Utility
Dimension Rifle*****
 [Security Level: 98]
 [Passive Effect: (Low Level Reinforced Flesh: basic body skill
minimally elevated)]
 [Stored Skill Core: none]
 'Dimension Level went up higher than I thought huh?'
```

– You have earned quite a bit of DF during the chaotic battle. Especially, because you were very vital in taking down the dungeon boss, you were able to absorb a sizable DF.

'That's not bad'

SuHyuk had a satisfied smile as he nodded. He had to use about 400 DF in the heat of the moment, but he still had above 9000 DF.

-1159 DF more and you will go up another level. Also if your Dimension level goes up to level 25, your security level will also go up to level 97, and though there are some limits, you will be able to use 'The Universe.'

'What is that?'

-I don't know much except that it is some kind of store that you can purchase skill core. Anything more specific will have to wait until it actually happens.

'A skill core! Alright, I wanted one of those.' SuHyuk was celebrating as he nodded in elation. He felt like, if he could somehow get a variety of skill cores, he wouldn't feel jealousy toward the knights.

While getting regular reports of the surroundings from Yan, SuHyuk carefully headed for the battle site. Luckily, none of the beasts or demons appeared.

"Ha-ah....."

As he expected, the battle site where everyone died was a pitiable sight. The demons and beasts didn't leave any bones and ate them all. There were no traces of them. Only thing that was left were blood stains, but because demons and beasts didn't eat other demons and beasts, the dead beasts were left scattered.

"If there was any remaining, I was gonna bury them....there is nothing here to bury."

SuHyuk, at least, wanted to bury Lee WuJin, but with things appearing like this, there was nothing he could do.

SuHyuk closed his eyes and prayed for the dead comrades while standing in front of the blood stains. Then he quickly started to gather the thing he wanted. Since he didn't know when demons and beasts will return, it was best to take the most important things and leave quickly.

The very first things that SuHyuk took care of were the remains of the moss rock demon. Level 3 demon's mana stone, if sold in a black market, can bring in at least \$10K. The level 2 demon carcass would be next. Even those would bring few thousands so it was a must.

After storing three mana stone, he, then stored some of the bones. Regretful about the moss rock demon was that he would have to give up getting its bones. Though it did have bones, in order to get at them required applying tremendous amount of

impacts. Such would create too big of a noise and it would require many of those big noises just to get down to the bones. In other words, it was an invitation to nearby beasts and demons to come find him.

So instead, SuHyuk settled for the bones of the 2nd level demons.

Another thing he had to consider was the weight. Though he could have taken more, because too much weight could affect him negatively in times of trouble with the beasts or demons, he only stored what he could carry comfortably. That meant carcasses of the beasts were neglected. He couldn't even store away all the body parts of the demons; There is no way he would make room for beast body parts.

Once he was done with the harvest, he searched for useable equipments of the dead knights. Though the thought of taking the equipment of the dead may be seen negatively, such harvest was considered a matter of fact, must thing to do in the situation of the world today.

Things might have been different in the past, but now days nobody worried about the honor of the dead. Especially, for people that lived a life of hell, like the sweepers, everything becomes luxury items. Therefore, SuHyuk focused on the equipment that would bring most amount of money. Among the helpers was a sniper, dimension rifle. SuHyuk made sure to store that rifle because it would make his hunting easier.

In this manner, SuHyuk went through the beasts and the remaining equipment as quickly as possible and quickly moved on

to another area. All that was left was to exit the dungeon.

'Yan, we need to find the exit from now on. There is no way for me to escape if all I am doing is running away. Therefore, I was planning on hunting as I go about. So even if you have to us some of the DF, go ahead and scan 200 meter radius and alert me on the situations as they happen.'

-yes.

It was regrettable that I had to use up DFs, but if I want to live, I must make some sacrifice. Also, increasing the distance of scan to only 100 meter more didn't use up too much extra.

SuHyuk moved without resting, and in the process, if he spotted a beast he would try to kill it from a long distance away with a silenced rifle.

Before, when he used to snipe a target, he would hit about 5-6 times out of 10, but with the addition of 'precision shooting-D' he was hitting 10 out of 10.

The result was, he was able to hit 12 level 1-2 beasts easily.

Everything was good up to this point. He killed off the beasts, earned some DFs, and was proceeding smoothly toward finding the exit. At least.....until few minutes ago.

'Check one more time. You sure?'

-Yes, I am positive. There are two level 2 demon signatures stationary over there.

'Crazy....,'

SuHyuk was able to find the exit in 10 hours without any problems, but the problem was that there were two level 2 demons that were guarding the exit.

In truth, he did sort of guess that such would be the case. However, what he was thinking was only one rather than two. In this situation, there was no way he could leave the dungeon.

The exit to the dungeon became visible with the death of the dungeon boss, but it was still closed. That means it was not possible to just run up to the door and ram himself on the door, it was a impossible task.

'If there was only one level 2 demon, he could have came up with some kind of a solution, but two....totally impossible.'

In reality, even just one being there would, nearly, make this task impossible, but with the addition of one more, the task became hopeless.

SuHyuk retreated back into the forest and quietly thought of what he could do to escape. He couldn't give up like that.

'Level 2 demons are not an enemy that I can kill with my current equipment, and I am not a knight either....'

SuHyuk's most powerful weapon was his dimension rifle, but even if it was powerful, the shells used in conjunction with the rifle were beast level shells and not demon level shells, and therefore, they would not do much damage to the demons.

SuHyuk was not able to come up with any solutions.

-Master.....what if you did it this way?

Yan, who had been quiet up to now, all of a sudden, spoke first.

'Huh? Do you have a good idea?'

-Right now master is level 24, but if you earn 1014 more DFs your Dimension level will go up to 25. Then your security will level up as well as have the ability to use transcendental store The Universe. Though I don't know much detail about the transcendental store, if you use it you might be able to overcome this obstacle, don't you think?

After listening to Yan's word, he instantly nodded his agreement. No matter how he thought, it was a brilliant suggestion.

'Wow, you are better than me.'

Up to now, SuHyuk simply thought of Yan as a convenient A.I., but rather than being a simple A.I., because she was a transcendental being, she could give advices as well.

'Let's start now.'

He didn't have time. In order to earn 1014 more DF, he must kill around 80 more beasts. Since he was not capable of killing demons, he had to kill level 1-3 beasts to fill more DFs.

SuHyuk was being very diligent about this. Luckily, because Lee HoSuk utilized point break strategy there were plenty of beasts that were left untouched. He killed off every beast he came across. Though level 3 beasts were pretty tough and had a lot of endurance, they were killed off fairly easy when he used the poison beast shells.

Whatever the case, SuHyuk took advantage of the transcendental system's scanning ability to avoid demons and sweep the beasts as he moved along.

For sleep, he found reasonably safe spots where he could take naps and he rested in a similar manner. After 49hours of such deliberate travel, he had fulfilled his goal.

Total DF amount exceeded 14,000 congratulations

Your Dimension level reached 25

Thiring, additional skill slot became available

Theiiii! Transcendental store Universe's first floor is opening

Hunting beasts while avoiding the demons is not easy. There is always the chance of demon discovering his location, and in such times he could be easily killed so he had to be very careful.

Total beasts he had killed were 72. Most were level 1 or 2 and only 9 made up the level 3 beasts. Beasts could be killed off by a snipe shot so they were fairly easy.

'Phew, I am finally done?'

-Yes, you finally opened the Universe. Also, some of the classified information was unlocked due to your rise in security level. Do you have any questions regarding the Universe?

'Of course, but first, how do you use it?'

-I can now open the Universe for you. Should I open it now?

'Yes, open it.

SuHyuk checked his surrounding first and nodded

Pahhot!

As soon as his response was given, something new appeared in front of his eyes.

It was a globe with a bright rainbow lights shining out of it. It felt like he would get sucked into it, right now, if he were to put his hand into it.

'What is this?'

-It's one part of The Universe. It is easy to use. Just stick your hand into the rainbow colored globe and think and you can use the first floor of the creation. As a reference, in the first floor of The Universe, there is knowledge of the past, present, and the future are all gathered together with respect to the lowest leveled items.

'Future, present, and past knowledge?'

-To make it easier to understand, consider the dimension you are currently associated with, and its past, present, and future is all connected, existing in one place and time...in The Universe.

'Is thatpossible?'

-Put your hand in the globe and exact knowledge, no, just think about the skill name. Then that skill's price and precise function will surface in your mind.

"....How am I supposed to know what kind of skill is in that globe? Referencing, conditioning, and function like things are they available?

-Unfortunately, because there are almost infinite amounts of skills in the globe, referencing, conditioning, and function related skills are not available. If you don't know the exact skill name, you can use fixed amount of DF to grab a random skill that reside in the first floor. Of course you won't know what you'll pull.

'So in other words, it is just a plain random pick?

-Yes, you can think of it that way for simplicity.

'Whew....let's think for a moment.'

He went through an ordeal in order to open the Universe, but his head was too overwhelmed. Worst of all, he couldn't even begin to grasp how he was supposed to use The Universe.

'Let's think one thing at a time. If I fail this, then I am through.'

This is the moment that calmness is needed the most.

SuHyuk started to organize his thoughts with utmost discretion.

Chapter 7: New Skill Core

'How much DF is spent on random drawing?'

-When random drawing is used on the 1st floor of the Universe, 5000 DF is used.

'Damn! Then I only have one attempt at it isn't it? Is that the average cost of the 1st floor's skill core items?'

-There are ones as cheap as 1000 and ones that cost up to 10000. So you can consider 5000 as the mid range price.

'So basically, it's neither good nor bad huh?'

Currently, SuHyuk has around 9000 DF. If he was to decide on the random pick and end up with something he doesn't need, the outcome could turn into the worst situation ever.

'Does it, by any chance, use up DF to browse through the skills?'

-Yes, on the 1st floor, it takes 10 DF to look at one item/skill.

'Hmmm, 10 DF.....' After having listened to Yan, SuHyuk thought things through very carefully.

'Should I pick some useable skills to start off?' After a prolonged thinking, some skills surfaced in his head.'

SuHyuk stuck his hand into the rainbow globe and thought up of something like ancient Chinese military combat art 'Dharma Mind Control' that he picked up somewhere, along with other definitely possible skills such as 'firewall,' '100-shot-100-hit,' 'lightening bolt,' and etc., totaling 6 skills. However, all of them were, "-All of them do not exist."

Because he still consumed 10 DF even if the browsing didn't turn up anything, he couldn't continue with the browsing.

'Were they too high leveled skills to be on the 1st floor? If not, the skill names were not as simple as I had thought? Whatever the reason, I don't think randomly thinking about something and hoping it will be inside the 1st floor is wise.'

After having tried the browsing and failed a few times SuHyuk thought some more.

'Three dimensional time period that includes me, which are past, present and future? Then the skills that the current knights are using will also exist won't they?'

SuHyuk started to organize his thoughts. In reality, he didn't know what skills existed inside of the Universe, but there were some skills that he knew inside. Those skills were, actually, being used by the knights. It was true that the real special skills were usually kept secret by each knight, and thus, there were no way for SuHyuk to know, but, at least, he already knew 'Sword-Shield Morph' and other widely spread basic skills. Therefore, he thought

about, of all the skills that he knew, which ones will be most helpful to him in his current situation.

'Reinforcement type won't be too useful won't they? Looks like, when looking at my equipment, will discharge type be good?'

SuHyuk thought about all of the skills that he could remember, and thought which skill would be best for the situation.

After 10 minutes, SuHyuk was able to pick 7 skills.

Attribute Type Knight Basic Skill 'Freeze Bestowal'

Discharge Type Knight Basic Skill 'Projectile Impact Reinforcement'

Discharge Type Knight Basic Skill 'Projectile Impact Induction'

Discharge Type Knight Basic Skill 'Penetration Increase'

Morph Type Knight Basic Skill 'Aura Shield'

Movement Type Knight Basic Skill 'Speed Movement'

Reinforcement Type Knight Basic Skill 'Hawk's Eye'

What SuHyuk knew were, mostly, each type's basic skills only.

Because every knight rarely used their special skills when in group, it was natural that he only knew basic ones.

'Well, I only have three skill slots. I must use these slots to make the best synergic combination.'

SuHyuk thought whether any of the above 7 skills existed in the Universe's 1st floor.

'Yan, please open the Universe once more.'

-Okay

Yan opened the Universe promptly, and the rainbow colored globe, once again, appeared in front of SuHyuk's eyes.

This time SuHyuk didn't waste any time and stuck his hand through the globe, and he thought of 'Freeze Bestowal.'

-Freeze Bestowal does not exist

'Then how about attribute type knight basic skill freeze bestowal?'

-Attribute type knight basic skill freeze bestowal does not exist either

'Huh? For real?'

-Yes, definitely

'Didn't you say that the skills from past, present, and future....AH!....Don't tell me....'

During the middle of his argument-like discussion with Yan, SuHyuk stuck his hand into the rainbow globe as if he recalled something.

-You have found the skill that you thought up. Information relating to the skill will open.

[Skill Core]

-Attribute Type Knight Basic Skill 'Freeze Bestowal D' (Level: common)

:Object of any type can be frozen, but for only 1 minutes. The length of time of freezing will increase with increased level

(Cool Off Time: 5 minutes) (Skill Type: Active)

(DF Usage: 15)

[Price: 1100 DF]

'It's done!'

SuHyuk was finally able to find what he wanted. The key to the acquisition is to think of the exact skill name without omitting any letter and to include the level of the skill. He recalled that his rifle skill also had level attached to it, so he also attached level to this skill.

'This is cheaper than I had thought....'

SuHyuk was surprised at the cheap price, and eventually, took a look at the skill info on the remaining 6 skills.

[Skill Core]

Discharge Type Knight Basic Skill 'Projectile Impact Homing D' (Level: common)

:Homes in on the target. The substance of the projectile does not matter, and even the energy projectiles are homed in on the target. Speed and complexity of the path will be raised with the increase in the level.

(No Cool Off Time) (Skill Type: Active)

(DF Usage: 10)

[Price: 1000 DF]

[Skill Core]

Discharge Type Knight Basic Skill 'Projectile Impact Reinforcement D' (Level: common)

:All the projectiles are reinforced, thus increasing impact. Upon increased level of the skill, the impact increases.

(No Cool Off Time) (Skill Type: Passive)

(DF Usage: none)

[Price: 7000 DF]

[Skill Core]

Discharge Type Knight Basic Skill 'Penetration Increase D' (Level: common)

:All the projectiles are given increased penetration capability. Only penetration capability is increased and power is not increased. Penetration capability is increased with increased skill level.

(Cool Off Time: 1 minute) (Skill Type: Active)

(DF Usage: 10) [Price: 1000 DF]

Morph Type Knight Basic Skill 'Aura Shield D' (Level: common)

:Using mana, shield is made. Aura is only able to block the first impact, and if the impact is greater than a set limit, it is capable of being penetrated. Both the number of impact and the set limit are increased with increased level.

(Cool Off Time: 1 minute) (Skill Type: Active)

(DF Usage: 10)

[Skill Core]

[Price: 1,200 DF]

[Skill Core]

Movement Type Knight Basic Skill 'Speed Movement D' (Level: common)

:For 10 seconds, movement speed increased. If hit while in use, damage may be increased. Increased level increases length of time

```
of speedy movement.
 (Cool Off Time: 1 minutes 10 seconds) (Skill Type: Active)
 (DF Usage: 20)
 [Price: 1,500 DF]
 [Skill Core]
 Reinforcement Type Knight Basic Skill 'Hawk Eye D' (Level:
common)
 :For 5 seconds long distance targeting capability increased. Upon
increased level, the length of time and accuracy are increased.
 (Cool Off Time: 30 seconds) (Skill Type: Active)
 (DF Usage: 5)
 [Price 1,200 DF]
 All of the skills had 'Cool Off Time' function and the active skills
required DF usage.
```

'By chance, is it saying it is using DF to utilize the skill?'

-Right. Passive skill does not require DF, but active skills require DF usage.

'Then aren't the passive skills always better than the active skills?'

-Not necessarily. Passive does not use DF, but at the same time, the effectiveness is weaker than active types and is more costly.

'It does look that way.'

Out of 6 skills, the passive skill 'Projectile Impact Reinforcement D' was more expensive than others by 7 times.

'Then, what should I buy....'

SuHyuk read over all the skill descriptions, and once again fell in worry about what to pick.

'Let's pick Speed Movement, Penetration Increase, and Hawk Eye for now'

Since he had limited amount of skill slots, there was no reason to buy more.

-Are you paying 3700 DF to buy these Skill Cores [Speed Movement D], [Penetration Increase D], and [Hawk Eye D]?

SuHyuk nodded.

-You have purchased 3 skill cores

At that time, the amount of DF that he had accumulated had dropped by 3700 and three new skill cores were purchased.

Sssseeeet

SuHyuk felt weird sensation as it entered his body.

'So I have purchased 3 core skills for now.... What is left of the DF is exactly 5,500 DF. Even if I use 5000 here, I would have enough DF to use the skills. Then....let's bet on this chance.'

Since he had already purchased three skills, even if he gamble and end up with bad skill, his situation won't turn for the worse.

'Yan, let's try the random pick!'

-You have used 5000 DF on random pick

Theerik, skill core (Jin Cronos's Concentration) has been purchased

'Huh? What is this?'

SuHyuk turned his head to the side, wondering about the strangely named skill

-New skill core's particular features will be explained

[Skill Core]

'Jin Cronos's Concentration' (Level: common<growth type>)

:During a battle, an increased concentration, forced upon the user, allows the user to perform tasks that the user isn't capable of during normal setting. However, if the level of the skill is too low, this skill does not work properly.

-Supplementary Explanation-

The Black slaughter, Jin Crono's very first awakened skill. This is the most valued skill of Jin Cronos who had become a legendary knight after having fallen in a trap made inside of a hole and battled his way out of the dimensional dungeon filled with 114 enemy titans.

Though this is a very difficult skill, and thus, is very hard to grow, but once grown, the effect of the skill will be very profound.

Jim Cronos had grown this skill all the way up to the legend rating.

(Cool Off Time: None) (Skill Type: Passive)

(DF Usage: None) (Growth Condition: Unknown)

[Price: 100,000 DF]

'What is with the growth condition.....the price is 100,000?

Wasn't the highest price on 1st floor 10,000?....'

SuHyuk was not sure whether the skill that he had just picked was a jackpot or a dungpot.

-Skills with growth conditions are special in that a specified condition must be met before it grows, and thus, level up. Though other skills, generally, have internal limits in how high a level can rise, the skill that the master had just earned had been known to rise to the legend rating. In other words, Jin Crono's Concentration is an outstanding skill, and as such, the skill should belong in the 4th level of the Universe, but....I am not sure why it was in the 1st floor to be able to be picked up during random pick. This phenomenon is something that has overridden the system's set limit.

'Whatever the case, then I must have picked up a jackpot?'

-From a normal stand point, it would be considered as a jackpot, but.....without any revealed means of growing the skill, it could be considered a difficult skill to grow.

'So then this is a dungpot?'

-It is a skill that is a bit difficult to explain in a normal way.

'Hmmm....., okay, let's push this aside. Then, for now, it is definite that this skill is not very helpful?'

-Yes, that is a fact.

'Damn....'

SuHyuk's gamble with the random pick was a result that was close to a failure, for now.

'But, what is this stuff about rating?'

-Skill ratings range from common to rare, unique, hero, legend, and mythical. Of course, closer the skills go toward the mythical, higher the rating.

'Then this skill core....even if its condition is difficult, if it can be raised up to the legend rating, then this would be a jackpot?'

-Yes, if it can be raised to that level, definitely

'Okay, though it is kinda disappointing, but let's leave it at that.'

SuHyuk erased the Jin Crono's Concentration skill from his mind. It was not the time to be thinking about something useless to his current situation. He needed to think up a plan to utilize all of the skills that he currently can use for the betterment of the situation.

'Two level 2 dimension demon....because they were sitting near each other without moving an inch, it would be impossible to kill

them one at a time. Then would I be able to kill them while attacking them at the same time?'

For someone that was just a cleaner and not a helper nor even a knight, to be worrying about simultaneous attack on two demons is unfathomable. However, current SuHyuk was not your average cleaner from the past. He had, in his disposal, an outstanding transcendental 'ability'.....and 4 skill cores that resulted from the ability. If these skills were to be used in a right manner, killing the two demons would not be an impossible feat.

'I can't discard the precision shooting skill. The biggest weapon that I have is, of course, the rifle. I have to win with that.'

Of course beast shells have, practically, no effect on level 2 demons, but that is true if it was shot, randomly, anywhere. If looked carefully, even the level 2 demons have some weak spots where the beast shells would penetrate. For such weaknesses to be taken advantage of, precision shooting is a must. So with there being only three slots for skills, precision shooting D couldn't be taken out.

'With the two remaining skill slots, I must fight while interchanging the skills among the three skills that I just purchased. Yan, how much DF is used to equip the slot with the new skills?'

-Hawk's Eye requires 5, Penetration Increase requires 10, and Speed Movement requires 20. Also, the cool off time only counts down while in a skill slot. So, if a skill core is removed while it is on its cool off time, the count down freezes until the next moment

that same skill core is inserted into the skill slot.

'In other words, it can't be used indefinitely while switching out.' SuHyuk nodded at Yan's courteous heads-up.

-And if you were to remove a skill core while it has some remaining effect, the remaining effect will be lost.

'Chet, that is disappointing.'

Actually, it makes sense that such would be the case, but it was still disappointing, nevertheless.

'Whatever the case, did I prep myself as much as I possibly could?' SuHyuk put away the Universe and did a final evaluation.

Four skill cores that are not in use....For now, SuHyuk inserted Penetration Increase and Hawk's Eye in the empty skill slot.

'Alright, let's slowly start.'

If he could wait and wait until the demons leave, he would rather do that, but he knew that the demons would not leave the spot.

There was one thing that the beast scientists would always say regarding the demons, that they are definitely not dumb.

According to those researchers, the mental capacities of the demons were quite high. Though the beasts had the similar mental make up of regular animals, such were not the case with the demons.

The reason why the two demons were sitting at the exit door was to wait for SuHyuk, because they knew that he would come to this location for him to exit the dungeon.

'First, setup the claymore....' SuHyuk set up all of his claymores at locations that he had thought up. No matter how powerful the claymores, if not used correctly, would have no effect on these level 2 demons. The reason for that was the same reason as the beast shells. They simply were not strong enough to penetrate the strong exterior of the demons. For SuHyuk to set these up, in spite of that fact, there was something that he had thought up.

SuHyuk went up to the pre-scouted little hill with caution after crawling on the ground for about 30 minutes to set up the claymores. This hill was about 700 meters away from where the demons were, but he had in mind to at least snipe one of the demons from the spot.

Churkuk, Churkuk.

SuHyuk reassembled his sniper rifle with seasoned skill. In order to be a cleaner, such skill was a norm. For someone that had been a cleaner for 10 years and having lived outside of the colony for 20 years, this was not even a job.

KirikKirik.

After inserting the magazine with the poisoned shells into the rifle, SuHyuk gently set the rifle down on the ground, and with lightness, he set the distance on the rifle.

'Should I have just bought the other Penetration related skill instead of the movement type?'

Now that he was almost ready for the attack, he had regretting thoughts regarding the choices he had made on the skill cores. Though it can't be confirmed, but it seemed logical that if he had combined Penetration Increase skill with Projectile Impact Induction skill, he would be able to penetrate the exterior of the level 2 demons quite easily.

Of course, he had already thought that this reasoning was not beneficial since it couldn't be proven, but just as one's cake looks smaller than the other's cake, he couldn't help but to think that, possibly, his abandoned thought might be effective after all.

'There is no point in second thinking things when it's all over and done.'

SuHyuk shook his head to clear off his anxious mind.

Only thing that he had to keep in mind was how to implement the task with what he had in his possession. 'I have to take care of one of the demons with this one shot....'

SuHyuk was aiming for an eye of the Red Canine Leopard Demon. There were many reasons for aiming for the eye, but the simplest reason was because the eyes were the easiest to penetrate with beast shells.

-Wind is consistently blowing from left to right at 1.5 m/s.

Yan constantly updated SuHyuk the wind strength and direction as she provided an exact target mark on the eye of the Red Canine Leopard Demon. Though it may not seem much, but such were big help to SuHyuk.

"Whoooo...." SuHyuk lightly cleared his chest in his effort to blow away his nervousness. Then he slowly squeezed his trigger finger that he placed on top of the trigger with very minute pressure on the trigger.

'Wind condition is good....and there is no movement...Right now!'

Keeik, Taaang!

Quadedec!

The instant the beast poison shell fired, one of the eyes of the Red Canine Leopard was being penetrated by the shell. No, it was on its way.

Quaang!

At the last moment, after feeling something uneasy, the Red Canine Leopard twisted its head and the beast shell ended up in the head region.

Keaunnnng!

Unfortunately, the beast shell didn't penetrate the head, but instead, it had hit the head with quite a force and it made the Red Canine Leopard Demon to tilt side to side.

'One more time!'

Churkuk, Ting!

He had to do whatever it takes to finish off the Red Canine Leopard Demon. Already, the Black Husked Hog Demon was running toward SuHyuk as if it was on a rampage, and therefore, he wouldn't have third chance at the Red Canine Leopard Demon.

'Skill activation, Hawk's Eye!'

Gooooooo!

SuHyuk even used Hawk's Eye as he, again, concentrated all of his attention on the Red Canine Leopard Demon.

-The wind strength is exactly the same, but the direction of the wind is reversed.

With the knowledge of the new wind condition, SuHyuk adjusted accordingly, and without any hesitation, he pulled the trigger.

Taaang!

Precision Shooting, Hawk's Eye, and Yan's support all added up to raising SuHyuk's marksmanship level to the highest possible state. This was an obvious result considering SuHyuk was already a good marksman.

Quadedec!

The shell that left SuHyuk's rifle entered the right eye of the Red Canine Leopard Demon and it entered the demon's brain.

Kaaaaaaang!

Not even the demon should be able to get up after this, especially, when the shell was a poisoned shell. Because the probability of the poison spreading throughout the brain of the Red Canine Leopard Demon was pretty high, SuHyuk could afford to focus solely on the Black Husked Hog Demon.

'Next is the Hog Demon!'

Kungkungkungkung!

Now that he and splendidly succeeded his attack, SuHyuk quickly threw down his rifle and turned his head to look at the Black Husked Hog Demon.

The power behind the Black Husked Hog Demon's charge was something not even the knights could stop.

'You have always been known for unconditional charge toward your target.' SuHyuk looked at the Hog Demon as he pulled out a switch from his pocket. He, then, without a care, pushed the switch.

Quaaaaaaaaaang!

Instantly, 10 claymores that were stationed at either side of the charging Hog Demon exploded. Of course the beast bones that were inside the claymores wouldn't penetrate the thick exterior of the Hog Demon, but the fact that all 10 claymores exploded at once, the combined explosive force was enough to halt the Hog Demon's charge.

Kuaaack!

As can be imagined, the Hog Demon was shaking in its steps. All around the Hog Demon, as well as around SuHyuk was muddied in debris and smoke, but unlike the Hog Demon, SuHyuk had a

valuable ally.

"Yan, give me the target markers!"

-Target markers initiating.

Even though the smoke made things hard to see, on top of the smoke was the name of the demon written in words as well as a rough sketch of Hog Demon's silhouette.

Wheeeeiiik!

Once he identified the target, SuHyuk threw his grenades toward the Hog Demon. He didn't just throw one, but he threw all 5 of the grenades that he had.

Quakang, Quaaaaaaakaang!

On top of the claymore attacks, now the grenades bombarded the Hog Demon.

Of course, even with this attack, there was no way that the Hog Demon would fall. No, the potential was great that not even the damage would be visible. Even then, SuHyuk dealt out all he had toward the Hog Demon.

Kuaaack!

All the attacks only made the Hog Demon mad. The Hog Demon shook its body as it looked at SuHyuk with piercing eyes....the eyes that turned dark red.

Overly excited Hog Demon was determined to instantly charge toward SuHyuk as soon as it was able to locate him.

Currently, SuHyuk had nothing to prevent the Hog Demon's charge, and the situation was not such that he can really deal with the Hog Demon. The Hog Demon's exterior was just too strong for SuHyuk to deal any real damage. It really didn't look like he had an answer to his dilemma.

But at that moment,.....something popped out next to the Hog Demon. A shadow that was running through the smoke.....

Unbelievably, that was SuHyuk.

Kuaaack!

Of course, the Hog Demon had every intention to charge toward SuHyuk when it located him, but something unusual happened at that moment.

Ssssssssst!

SuHyuk's body that was running toward the Hog Demon phased away into nothing. In actuality, what happened was that SuHyuk had blitzed toward the Hog Demon with unbelievable speed and had moved out of Hog Demon's point of sight, but there was no way for the Hog Demon to know that.

Kuaaack?

After having lost sight of SuHyuk, it quickly looked around, but SuHyuk was nowhere to be found.

"I am right here you fat pig." The sound came from immediately below the Hog Demon.

Chaaaack.

SuHyuk slid underneath Hog Demon's belly and pulled his rifle's trigger even before he had finished calling out to the pig.

Dddddddddck!

Instantly, tens of beast shells penetrated through the belly and entered Hog Demon's body.

If said accurately, all of the beast shells were fired at an area the size of a human adult's fist, and as a result, the shells had nowhere to go but to penetrate through the exterior and enter Hog Demon's body.

That small fist sized area that SuHyuk concentrated his fire upon was the Hog Demon's weak point....its reproductive organ region.

Though all around this area had solid defense, this reproductive region was definitely weaker. Not only that, this region is usually solidly shut tight in order to protect the region, but upon heightened anger the region opens up.

It was because SuHyuk had known this fact that he, first, made the Hog Demon angry before speeding toward this weak region.

With an agonizing whale, the Hog Demon fell on its side.

Kuuuuung!

Following the Red Canine Leopard Demon, the Black Husked Hog Demon fell as well.

SuHyuk had always struggled to stay alive, and because of that unending resiliency, he was able to live through today as well.